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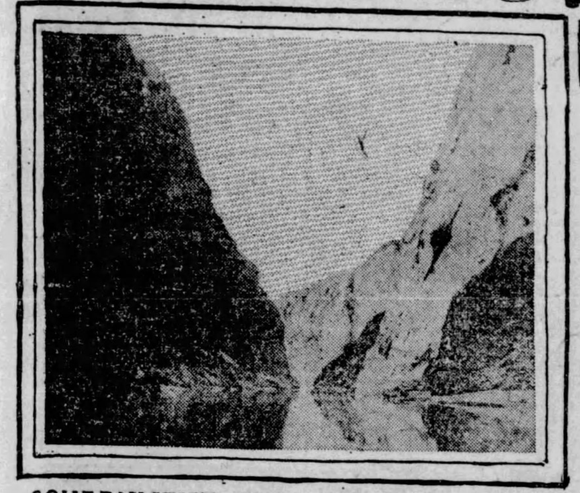
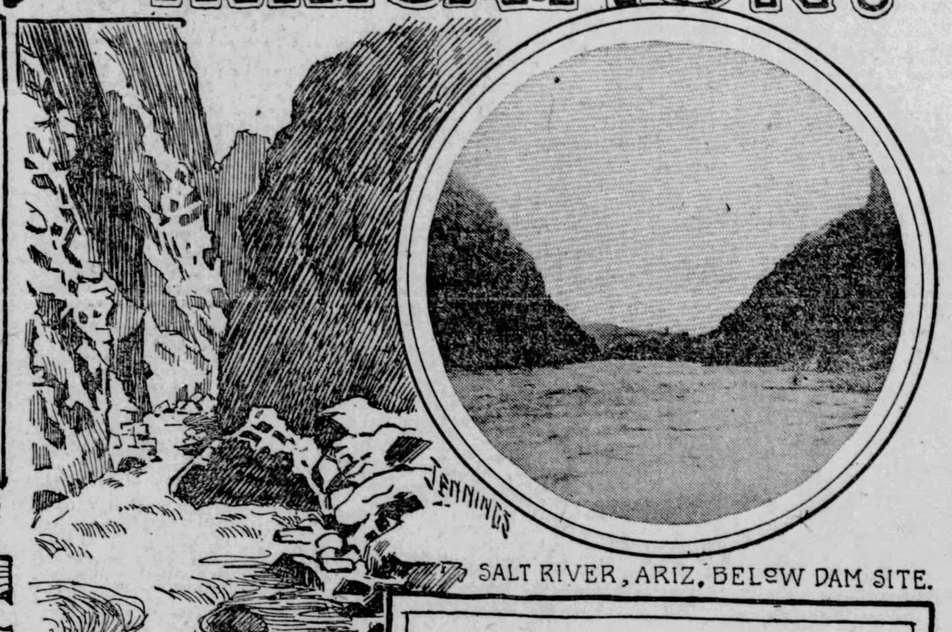
MILLIONS for IRRIGATION.



GOVERNMENT DAM SITE ON COLORADO RIVER, ARIZ.



SALT RIVER, ARIZ. BELOW DAM SITE.

Thirty-seven million dollars for irrigation. This amount is the estimated figure of the appropriation for irrigation work which will be available in the fiscal year of 1908, the sum realized from the sale of western public lands since the year of the passage of the irrigation law.

This fund is, according to the law, to be invested by the secretary of the interior, in feasible irrigation projects which will repay the amount to the government, in ten annual installments from the settlers.

The apportionment of the fund by Secretary Hitchcock has been practically completed and the plans matured for expending the entire fund on certain definite projects in the west, which practically brings to an end further surveys and examinations and permits the concentration of effort of the reclamation service on the building of a few important projects.

The irrigation act gives the secretary of the interior a very wide latitude in the investment of this large fund, although he is required to spend the major portion of the fund arising from the sale of public lands within each state or territory for the benefit of their lands, so far as practicable.

It is a recognized fact that the contributions to the fund from the various states are, in most cases, not in proportion to the need of those states for irrigation. Arizona and Nevada, for instance, whose lands have contributed very little to the fund, have probably the greatest need and opportunity for reclamation, while on the other hand, North Dakota and Oklahoma, though large contributors, have, perhaps, the least actual need for irrigation of any of the western states. In some cases the chief aim of politicians has been apparently not so much to develop irrigation as to secure the expediture of federal funds in the section they represent.

The exercise of such impartial judgment as Secretary Hitchcock has displayed, has, of course, given rise to more or less adverse criticism and attack, especially from men who have viewed the reclamation act as a great opportunity for either direct or indirect personal advancement. The men to whom the public domain has long been considered a legitimate prey, hailed the passage of the irrigation act as an improved method of converting to their use the nation's resources in the west. Mr. Hitchcock's vigorous measures, however, have seriously interfered with their proceedings, and they are correspondingly bitter in their denunciations of his acts.

GOVERNMENT DAM SITE ON GUNNISON CANYON, COLORADO

BUILDING GOVERNMENT IRRIGATION DAM, MINIDOKA PROJECT, IDAHO.

BORING FOR BEDROCK AT SHOSHONE DAM SITE.

The states thus far to chiefly benefit through the irrigation law are Arizona, Wyoming, Montana and Nevada, although some of them have themselves made to it considerable contributions. Wyoming, because of its strategic geographical position and the fact that much of the water supply of the west originates in that part of the state, must of necessity have the storage reservoirs built there, not only for the benefit of Wyoming, but for Nebraska as well. The secretary has set aside $2,250,000 for the Shoshone river, Wyoming, project, and $3,330,000 for the Pathfinder project on North Platte river, to be partially expended for the benefit of Nebraska. Thus about 15 per cent of the entire reclamation fund will be expended in Wyoming, although she has contributed only about four per cent of the fund. Scenes along the Platte and the Shoshone canyons are among the wildest and most picturesque in America.

Second to Wyoming comes the territory of Arizona, with the great Salt river project at an estimated cost of about four million dollars, requiring upwards of 9 per cent of the entire reclamation fund, although Arizona has contributed less than one per cent. It is stated by the engineers that the opportunities for water storage in Arizona are, next to Wyoming, the best in the arid west, while the soil of that territory is not only extremely fertile and lying at a moderate altitude, but the climate is semi-tropical, and, under careful cultivation, ten or even five acres will support a family. Southern California today, with a similar soil and climate has thousands of prosperous little five and ten-acre farms.

The third state in order of irrigation benefits is Montana, which, although lying far north, has a splendid water supply and likewise rich land. Actual construction has been begun by the government on the Yellowstone, where, owing to the plentiful flow of water, none of the embarrassing complications of vested water rights exists, which have prevented work thus far on the Missouri river and on the Milk river. The funds allotted to Montana for the Huntley, Lower Yellowstone and Milk river projects amount to over three million dollars, or exactly nine per cent of the fund, which is in excess of the amount contributed by Montana.

The fourth state in order of benefits is Nevada, contributing the least money to the fund, but probably most needing its benefits. It was, in fact, through the dire needs of this state that the law received its inspiration, being originally known as the Newlands bill, introduced by Senator Newlands, then a representative, in the spring of 1901.

Following Nevada comes Idaho, Washington, Colorado, Nebraska, South Dakota, Oregon, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Utah, Kansas and lastly New Mexico.

There are many attractive irrigation projects in these states, which will be taken up and acted upon by the government in the future, when the repayments begin to come in from the settlers under the projects now under construction, or should congress possibly conclude to make a direct loan to the reclamation fund.

Such an innovation as a direct congressional appropriation for a loan to the reclamation fund is not believed to be at all beyond the bounds of possibility, some time in the future, after the systems now projected shall have demonstrated themselves to be the successes predicted. The present figure above noted of thirty-seven million dollars would have been looked upon as the dream of an impractical enthusiast at the time that the irrigation bill was being discussed in congress less than four years ago. The year before the passage of the act, the securing of a hundred million dollar appropriation would have been believed to be as likely a figure as five millions, to say nothing of thirty-seven millions.

GUY S. MITCHELL.

A Little Journey to Historic Lands

By WM. H. MAHER

GETTING ACQUAINTED WITH PATRICK HENRY

During the past week, while this sketch was on my mind, I have asked several educated persons the question: "What do you know about Patrick Henry?"

I wondered if I was singular in my lack of knowledge of the man. I found in every case that we were all very much alike; we knew that there was such a person; that he was a bold and intense patriot, and that some of his speeches were familiar to every schoolboy, particularly the one ending: "Give me liberty or give me death!" That seemed to be the extent of our present knowledge.

But even with that little knowledge of him we had a very strong admiration for his eloquence, and a vivid belief in his having been a man of courage and force and action.

What Friday afternoon ever passed in the schools of forty to sixty years ago, when someone did not use for "his piece" an extract from that famous speech of Patrick Henry. I wonder if the present generation make as free use of it.

That speech has always been associated with memories of my school years, and whenever I recall certain of my companions, I seem to think of them as continuing during all these years, to stand on the school platform, where they shout "Give me liberty or give me death."

Suppose you were put down in the city where still stands the very same church in which the living, breathing, forceful man stood when he delivered this very speech, could anything induce you to go away without visiting it?

I do not believe you would be so unfaithful to your boyish memories. Come with me, and let us hearken to perhaps an echo that still clings to the historic house.

Probably your first surprise, if you have grown rusty in your history, is to learn that this famous speech was delivered in a church. It has the ring of the assembly or the council chamber. But those were solemn days; men were thinking deeply in that fateful year, 1775. They asked God to guide them, and met in His church to be nearer Him in spirit.

Saint John's church was built in 1740: It shows no signs of the weakness of age, but stands back from the street, surrounded by its "God's acre," ancient graves and tombstones, the oldest of which bears date of 1751.

The doors of the church are opened for us and we enter a small edifice, but larger now than in 1775. This was the room; but see! there is one pew with a plate fastened to it. What was that? It says that in this pew, standing right here, Patrick Henry delivered his famous speech.

"Angels and ministers of grace defend us!"

How carelessly and unthinkingly we come into holy places! One's heart beats faster for a moment as a result of new sensations.

The Mighty Men of Old.

Think of the mighty men who met in this little church on the 20th of March in that year of 1775. Probably but for this meeting, and this man, the story of 1776 would never have been told. Here were Washington, Jefferson, Mason, Lee, Nelson, Benjamin Harrison, Pendleton and Randolph. Men were there with conciliatory resolutions, but Henry "smelled the battle afar off," and before such resolutions could be acted upon jumped to his feet and presented a substitute resolution the gist of which was in the sentence:

"That this colony be immediately put into a state of defense . . . . that a committee be formed to prepare a plan for arming and disciplining such a number of men as may be sufficient for that purpose."

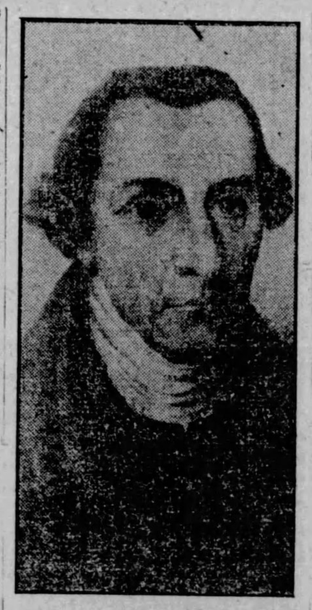
Henry moved and Richard Henry Lee seconded it. Of course there were those present who saw that this was war, while they desired peace. They had their say. Then Henry stood up, right here where I am standing—not in some vague spot or shadowy building, but right here; the window, a few feet left of him, lighting up his face; the arched roof resounding with his rounded periods. What manner of man was he, standing there?

What Manner of Man Was He?

He is described as a man of middling stature, rather stoop shouldered, with no superfluous flesh; his features were distinctly marked, and his complexion rather dark. He was not a handsome man, but his countenance was pleasant and full of intelligence and interest. His eyes were blue and he had fine teeth; he was enabled to articulate very distinctly by means of a rather wide mouth. His voice was strong, harmonious and clear, and he could modulate it at pleasure.

Do you see him standing there? Can you not hear him saying, in a carefully modulated tone:

"No man thought more highly than he did of the patriotism, as well as abilities, of the very worthy gentlemen who had just addressed the house. But different men saw the same subject in different lights; and there, he hoped it would not be thought disrespectful to those gentlemen if, entertaining, as he did, opinions of a character very opposite to theirs,



PATRICK HENRY.

he should speak forth his sentiments freely and without reserve."

That was a modest beginning. You can see him now turn to these gentlemen as if saying, Now I am ready. Don't you recall reciting the next paragraph: "Mr. President, it is natural to man to indulge in the illusions of hope"?

Then you recall where he says: "I have but one lamp by which my feet are guided; and that is the lamp of experience."

The Story of an Eye-Witness.

An eye-witness says: "Henry arose with an unearthly fire burning in his eye. He commenced somewhat calmly, but the smothered excitement began more and more to play upon his features, and thrill in the tones of his voice. The tendons of his neck stood out white and rigid like whipcords. His voice rose louder and louder until the walls of the church seemed to shake in its tremendous vibrations. Finally his pale face and glaring eyes became terrible to look upon. Men leaned forward in their seats, their faces pale and their eyes glaring, like the speaker's."

Do you not see it all here today? My pulse is throbbing with the picture. I am hanging on his every word. Watch him as he says: "Is life so dear, or peace so sweet, as to be purchased at the price of chains and slavery?" He stands (we are told) in the attitude of a condemned galley slave, loaded with fetters, awaiting his doom. His form is bowed; his wrists are crossed; his manacles are almost visible, as he stands the embodiment of helplessness and agony. After a solemn pause he raises his eyes and chained hands to heaven, and prays, in tones that thrill every heart: "Forbid it, Almighty God!"

Then he turns toward the timid loyalists in the house, who are quaking with terror at the idea of the consequences of participating in these proceedings, which will be visited with the penalties of treason by the British crown; and he slowly bends his form yet nearer the earth, and says: "I know not what course others may take," and his hands are still crossed, while he seems weighted down with additional chains, and transformed into an oppressed, heart-broken, and helpless felon.

He remains in this posture of humiliation long enough to impress the imagination with the condition of the colony under the iron heel of military despotism, and then he throws off all signs of submission; he arises proudly to his full height, and exclaims: "But as for me"—and the words hiss through his clenched teeth, his body is thrown back, his countenance is distorted with agony and rage, and then in loud, clear, triumphant tones: "Give me liberty"—electrifies the assembly.

As he speaks the word "liberty" his hands are open, his arms elevated and extended, his countenance radiant; he stands erect and defiant, while the sound of his voice and the sublimity of his attitude make him appear the incarnation of Freedom.

After a momentary pause, only long enough to permit the echo of the word "liberty" to cease, he lets his left hand fall powerless to his side, and clenches his right hand firmly, as if holding a dagger to his breast, and he closes the grand appeal with the solemn words:

—"or give me death!"

And as these resound with the cadence of a funeral dirge, he suits the action to the word by a blow upon the left breast with the right hand which seems to drive the dagger deep into his heart.

The Resolutions Carry.

The resolutions carry. The Rubicon is crossed. The colonies will prepare for resistance.

Grand old walls, that saw and heard all this, I venerate, I salute you! What a pleasure it would be to join the congregation that worships here, and listen to preaching and singing under this roof. Henry and Washington and Jefferson have become dust, but the church still gathers its flock to worship God. May it stand forever!

Were I to stop here, as if that speech in this little church was the one event in the life of Patrick Henry, we would have no fair conception of the great abilities or that wonderful man, nor of the important part he played, for two score years, in the history of his state and of the nation. Let us do him the justice of briefly glancing over his useful and brilliant career.

Patrick Henry's Boyhood.

Patrick Henry's mother was descended from Welsh ancestors, and his father from Scotch; certainly a splendid combination. He was born about sixteen miles from Richwood, Virginia, on May 29, 1736, and attended the common schools until he was ten years of age, but he studied with his father, and at fifteen was well versed in ancient and modern history. He was described at that age as full of honor, fond of society, fond of reading, and a lover of his gun, but regardless of the appearance of his dress. He had a nice ear for music and was an excellent player on the violin. All his life he was plain and easy in his manners and entirely exempt from bashfulness. He had a very retentive memory, making whatever he read his own. His father often said that he was the most dutiful son that ever lived.

Goes Into Business.

At fifteen he was placed in a country store, and a year later he and his brother set up in business for themselves, but they lasted only one year

In 1754, at less than nineteen years of age, he married; his wife, a woman of excellent parentage, brought him six negroes and 300 acres of poor land; his father helped him somewhat, and he attempted to support himself by agriculture. But he evidently failed at this.

Again, in 1758, he opened a country store, but at the end of a year his capital was all gone. He was evidently not cut out for a country merchant.

He determined to enter the profession of law, borrowed a Coke Upon Littleton, and a Digest of Virginia Acts, and after reading these for six weeks rode to Williamsburg, then the capital, and appeared before the board of examiners as an applicant for a license. There were four examiners, two agreed and two refused, but "after much entreaty, and many promises for future study," these latter two consented. The conduct of his first case made him famous throughout the colony, and it is safe to say it also made him known to himself.

Curtis says Jefferson was on his way to Williamsburg to enter college, when he first met Patrick Henry, and that the first germs of patriotism were dropped into young Jefferson's soul by his association with Henry, whom he describes as "a hilarious, impecunious, irrepressible, reckless young lawyer, full of music and humor, who was regarded by his neighbors as an incorrigible scamp, but soon, in a single speech, was to win the reputation of being the most eloquent and persuasive orator in America."

Henry as a Lawyer.

Jefferson says of him: "His manners had something of courseness in them," but he was an intense admirer of Henry's courage, oratory and wit. Shortly before his death he said of Henry's oratory: "I never heard anything that deserved to be called by the same name with what flowed from him, and where he got the torrent of language from is inconceivable. I have frequently shut my eyes while he spoke, and when he was done asked myself what he said, without being able to remember a word of it."

When Henry came to Williamsburg he frequently shared Jefferson's bed, for the lack of money to pay a hotel bill, and it was from Jefferson's modest chamber that he went to the meeting of Burgesses, in May, 1765, to make the famous speech against taxation without representation.

Jefferson said of that speech: "Torrents of sublime eloquence swept away all arguments on the other side, and the resolutions were carried, the last one by a single vote." But the next day, after a night of thought, and in the absence of the mighty eloquence of Henry, who was not present, the vote was reconsidered and the resolutions expunged from the records.

His First Great Case.

In 1763 was his first great case, called the "Parson's Cause," a suit brought by a clergyman against his parish, claiming he had not received the full amount of tobacco due him. Henry was attorney for the parish.

We are told that Mr. Henry had studied profoundly his case. To him it was not a mere matter of dollars and cents, but involved the dearest rights of the people. He rose to reply to the plaintiff's attorney; he showed embarrassment and awkwardness, and began in a faltering manner. People hung their heads at the unpromising commencement of their champion, while his father hid his face in confusion. As he proceeded and warmed up, his manner changed; his attitude was erect and lofty, his face lighted up, his eyes flashed fire, his gestures became graceful and impressive, and his voice and his emphasis were charming.

He spoke for an hour and won his case; the jury giving the clergyman one penny damages.

The feelings of the excited people overleaped all bounds, and, wild with delight, they seized their champion and bore him on their shoulders in triumph around the court yard. It was said that the people who heard this speech were never tired of talking of it, and it made Henry's reputation as a lawyer and orator.

During the first year after making this his fee book shows the names of 164 new clients.

During that year he was called to Williamsburg, to appear for a friend before a committee in an election contest. It is said that there was great state and ceremony in everything appertaining to the assembly, but that Henry was dressed in coarse apparel; no one seemed to know him, and he was scarcely treated decently. But the general contempt was quickly changed to admiration by a burst of eloquence superior to anything that had been heard before within those walls.

Enters Public Life.

In 1765 the colonies were in a ferment over the Stamp Act, and Patrick Henry was elected to the house of burgesses. The Virginia house was not only composed of some of the greatest men in that state, but they had few equals in all the colonies. There were Randolph, Pendleton, Wythe, Lee, George Washington, Nicholas, Benjamin Harrison, Page and Mason, just to mention a few of those who afterwards played a large part in the history-making period of this country.

It was here that Henry made his great speech in descanting upon the tyranny of the obnoxious act. In his autobiography Jefferson says: "I attended the debate at the door of the lobby of the house, and heard the splendid display of Mr. Henry's talents as a popular orator. They were great indeed; such as I have never heard from any other man. He appeared to me to speak as Homer wrote."

"Treason! Treason."

It was in the midst of this "most bloody" debate that Henry exclaimed, in a voice and with a gesture which startled the house:

"Tarquin and Caesar had each his Brutus, Charles the First his Cromwell, and George the Third——"

"Treason!" shouted the speaker.

"Treason! Treason!" echoed from various parts of the house.

Without faltering for an instant, but rising to a loftier altitude, and fixing on the speaker an eye which seemed to flash fire, Henry added, with most thrilling emphasis:

"—may profit by their example! If this be treason, make the most of it."

His Official Honors.

I have given too much space, perhaps, to the story of these famous speeches, but I was desirous of showing that he was not a man of one great speech; that his eloquence was not a bursting meteor, seen but once in its brilliancy, but was with him on all occasions, and that if he was a man of little schooling he had made himself a man of broad learning by his reading and insight.

When Virginia adopted a constitution the man who had "set in motion the ball of revolution," Patrick Henry, was elected the governor, receiving on the first ballot 60 votes out of 106. He was reelected for the second term unanimously, and then for the third term without even a ballot.

He retired to private life at the end of his third term as governor, but in 1784 he was again called to the chair, to succeed Benjamin Harrison, and again in 1785 to succeed himself, and without opposition. In November, 1796, he was elected once more, but declined the appointment.

He was tendered the mission to Spain by President Washington, in 1794, but refused the offer. In 1795 Washington offered him the secretaryship of state, but this, too, he felt obliged to decline. Then, in 1796, Washington offered him the position of chief justice of the supreme court, but Henry's health would not permit him to accept even this great honor.

These things are told to show the high regard in which his character and abilities were held. We have not done them justice. We have paid homage to the orator, and utterly ignored the great man back of the oration. For he was a great man! The more we study him the greater he is.

Death called to him on June 6, 1799, after entering his 64th year.

He is buried at Red Hill, Va. A plain slab covers his grave, on which are inscribed his name, the dates of his birth and death, and the words, "His fame is his best epitaph."

As we go hence we may feel that at last we are slightly acquainted with the true Patrick Henry.

Mutual Aid.

At a banquet given to the delegates of Mutual Aid societies in Paris last week 25,000 bottles of red wine, 25,000 bottles of white wine, 25,000 bottles of beer and 10,000 bottles of champagne were provided, yet every delegate reached his home in safety. That shows what Mutual Aid can do.—London Punch.

The ACCOMPLICE

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By FREDERICK TREVOR HILL

XIII.

I do not remember what explanation I gave for calling up Hefryville and giving the necessary instructions for the packing and forwarding of my bag, but I know I escaped from the station without further questioning, and started back to the hotel more puzzled and troubled than I had been at any time since the opening of the trial.

In the first place, I could not reconcile Miss Frayne's words and actions with her attitude of the preceding evening. She had apparently appreciated the delicacy of my position and the proprieties of the occasion the moment the situation had been explained to her, and what had occurred since should have absolutely sealed her lips. If I had been unwilling to hear anything concerning the case when I was confident of being released from all connection with it, she must have known I could not receive private information under the existing circumstances. Had she merely telephoned to express her satisfaction at my remaining on the jury or to comment on my part in the proceedings she would have been guilty of a grave breach of decorum. But to force her confidences upon me again my protest was almost unpardonable. Worst of all, her communication could not possibly be ignored or forgotten. If true, it vitally affected the case, and I had not the slightest doubt of its truth. No one would make such a statement unless it was susceptible of proof. It not only involved her in the case—it opened her to suspicion and unthinkable possibilities.

Why had Barstow acted as though he were ignorant of the facts? If he knew that Alice Emory had not occupied her room on the night of the murder, why had he allowed Gilbert to spend a whole morning in accumulating testimony based upon the supposition that she and no other could have passed through the window of that room? Was he chivalrously refusing to drag Miss Frayne into the case? Barstow did not impress me as chivalrous, but he certainly would not imperil his client's safety merely to save her friend from embarrassment. Was he holding the information in reserve until the prosecution had submitted all its proofs in order to make the surprise as complete as possible? There might be a certain tactical shrewdness in this, but it seemed incredible that he would risk anything for mere dramatic effect.

With this evidence before it the grand jury might never have indicted the woman at all—a far more desirable end than any surprise at her trial. It was inconceivable that a lawyer of his experience would withhold a fact vital to his client merely for the purpose of making a brilliant, spectacular defense. Yet was not this what the housekeeper had complained of in the interview at the farmhouse? I distinctly remembered hearing her declare that he could and should have prevented the indictment of his client. Was he conducting this case in the manner best calculated to enhance his professional reputation regardless of the defendant's highest interest? Was she merely a pawn in his legal game? Was this the reason he would not let his client talk? Why did he want Madeline Mapes and Betty Field out of the way? Was it because their presence would render an acquittal too easy, and interfere with his plan to make capital and reputation out of a seemingly difficult cause? No. They both knew something about the blue dress, and possibly other matters unfavorable to the defendant. Perhaps they knew who occupied Miss Emory's room on November 2d. Did Gilbert know it too?

The silent question startled me into the suspicion that he might be purposely ignoring Miss Frayne's connection with the case, was he capable of a deliberate injustice to one woman that he might save another from disagreeable publicity and scandal? The idea no sooner occurred to me than I saw its absurdity. He had every reason to welcome an excuse for abandoning the Emory case, and Barbara Frayne had equal reason for supplying him with all the favorable information in her possession. Why had she not told him what she had told me?

At first I seriously considered the advisability of reporting all I had heard to the judge before the reopening of court, but second thoughts convinced me that such action was neither necessary nor expedient. My experience in attempting to explain matters had not been calculated to encourage further efforts in that direction. His honor would probably again inquire if I had formed any unalterable opinion as to the guilt or innocence of the accused, and if I replied in the negative he would cut me off without another word. Miss Frayne's message had not convinced me of the guilt or innocence of her friend. In all probability it had merely given me advance information of a point which Barstow would bring out in due season, and if he did not I could supply the omission at any moment by calling Miss Barbara to the stand.

I had begun by fiercely resenting her action in forcing her secret upon me, but on further consideration I found much in her loyalty to her friend, her natural impulsiveness, and the provokingly mysterious tactics of the lawyers to excuse her conduct, and I dwelt upon this line of argument with such effect that I ended with something like a keen appreciation of the confidence reposed in me.

I moved forward more rapidly and with a lighter step as I reached this point in my reflections, and almost immediately bumped into a man walking in the opposite direction.

"I beg your pardon," I began.

"It's entirely my fault, Mr. Lambert. I was walking on the wrong side of the road and I'm glad you ran into me, for you're the very person I most wanted to see.

I peered at the speaker, but though his voice was familiar I did not recognize his face.

"You do not remember me, I see," he remarked, smilingly, as he noted my puzzled expression.

"It's very dark in the lane here," I temporized, "and though I recognize your voice I'm afraid I cannot at the moment recall you."

"That's not at all surprising, Mr. Lambert," he responded, pleasantly; "pray don't apologize. I'm one of Mr. Gilbert's assistants, and I thought perhaps you might have noticed me in court."

I stared closely at the young man, and although it was too dark under the trees to get a good view I thought I should have remembered his face if I had ever seen it before. It suggested a fox with flattened ears, and eyes continually glancing backward—a crafty, timid, unreliable face belying the man's voice and manner, which were unusually agreeable.

"What can I do for Mr. Gilbert's assistant?" I inquired, coldly, for I had no desire to extend my acquaintance with the gentleman.

"Nothing for me, Mr. Lambert," he responded, affably. "I am merely Mr. Gilbert's messenger in the matter, which I can explain in a very few words."

"Please do so," I replied, moving on suggestively.

"The fewer the better—eh?" he laughed, as he fell into step beside me. "Well, a word to the wise is sufficient, sir. Mr. Gilbert thinks that perhaps you should have been excused from the jury this morning. That is the gist of the whole matter, Mr. Lambert."

I stopped and stared at the speaker, but the sight of his face dampened the joy I had instinctively felt at his words.

"Mr. Gilbert thinks rather slowly," I observed, severely. "Had he used his wits this morning we would have both saved a day."

"He recognizes that, sir," responded the assistant. "But I suppose he's acting on the principle of better late than never. Anyway, he wants to do what is right and fair now if he has made any mistake up to date."

"Who is to show the prosecutor the error of his way?" I inquired, moving on again, at the same time wondering where I could have heard the assistant's voice.

"You can, Mr. Lambert," he replied. "You see, Mr. Gilbert thinks the judge ought to have allowed you to make a full explanation this morning, and believing you were not treated fairly he offers to take up the matter again and procure your discharge if the facts in any way warrant it. Of course he does not make this suggestion wholly in your interest, for if there should be any really valid reason for your resignation it might give the other side a chance to upset the verdict if we obtain one, and then we would all have our work to do again."

The speaker paused and I turned inquiringly toward him, but he seemed to think he had made himself sufficiently clear, for he met me with a furtive glance of expectation.

"You will have to speak more plainly, my friend, if you expect me to understand what is wanted," I growled. "I'm in no mood for guessing road-side riddles."

The messenger laughed so frankly and good-naturedly that I almost forgot his fox face.

"There is nothing mysterious in my mission, Mr. Lambert," he responded, pleasantly, "and I am to blame if it sounds so. The idea is for you to tell me why you asked to be excused from further service on the jury this morning. That is to say, what facts you learned or what you heard which in your opinion disqualified you. With this information Mr. Gilbert will know whether or not there is any chance of obtaining your release, and if there is he will take the necessary steps at once. If not, there is no harm done and you can treat each other's communication as confidential and let the matter drop. Of course you understand, Mr. Lambert, that personally Mr. Gilbert would much prefer to have you remain, and it is only because——"

I suddenly halted, for something in the man's voice recalled the conversation in the Shaw house, and in a flash I recognized the speaker as Miss Mapes' visitor. "Barstow's man," she had called him! And what else? Another moment and I would have his name. In my excitement I grasped the fellow's arm.

"What is the matter, Mr. Lambert?" he inquired, but, though his voice was steady, he instinctively backed away from me and his furtive eyes sought the lane behind him. I did not reply immediately, for I was struggling to remember his name, which was even then on the tip of my tongue.

"I don't know what is the matter," I answered, slowly and pointedly, "and I don't like to think, sir. You can tell your principal, however, that I decline his proposition—decline it positively, unequivocally, and without thanks. Good-night, Mr. Hunt!"

The man fairly staggered as the name burst from me, but he recovered himself with amazing assurance. No one could have done better. I say it to his credit.

"Pardon me for not mentioning my name," he responded, with dignity and calmness. "I am Mr. Corning—Abel Corning, at your service, Mr. Lambert. I will report your answer to Mr. Gilbert at once, sir. Good-night."

XIV.

I made my way to the hotel, firmly resolving not to leave it again except in the company of my fellow-jurors. My adventure at the Shaw farm had been the result of my own indiscretion, but I certainly had not opened myself to the gratuitous telephone confidence or to Barstow's sinister approach. Still if I were to be harassed and importuned at every turn, it would be much safer to keep the company of my associates and place myself beyond the reach of further accident or design. But even as I determined on this course I knew that in one way, at least, the mischief was already done, for my latest experience had made an impression upon my mind which could not easily be effaced. The Pollicet message had startled and disturbed me at first, but maturer consideration had convinced me that I had merely been apprised of one of the defenses which Barstow was undoubtedly holding in reserve, and that the knowledge which I had thus acquired in advance would not influence me one way or the other.

But the encounter with Mr. Hunt was quite another matter. It was clearly an attempt on Barstow's part to worm information from me which might prove useful to his cause, or to see whether or not I was a desirable juror. The mere fact of his resorting to such tricks was of itself enough to prejudice me against him, but I could still have depended upon myself to discriminate between the counsel and his client had it not been that his action reflected the weakness of his case. A lawyer resorting to the dangerous expedient of approaching a juror must be in sore straits for legitimate defense. Nothing which had come to my knowledge, either in or out of the court room, had had any controlling weight with me until I had unmasked this attempt, but I knew I could never forget such a sinister episode and I dreaded its unconscious effect on my judgment.

My first thought was publicly to denounce the man and his methods, but second thoughts convinced me that any exposure of the lawyer would result in a cruel injustice to the client from which she might never recover. Nine men out of ten would read her guilt in Barstow's exposure, were she never so innocent of his injudicious efforts on her behalf. But quite aside from any effect which my accusations might have upon the defendant's case, I knew I must be prepared to support my charges if I made them at all.

And what proof did I possess? Stripped of conjecture and inference, my story was pitifully in-

adequate. The sum and substance of it all was that I had been asked certain questions by someone whose voice I thought I recognized as a man said to be in Barstow's employ, and whom Miss Mapes had called Hunt. I could not produce the man or tell who he was or where he could be found, and the circumstances under which I had heard his name would not recommend my veracity. I would be discredited and laughed out of court as a dreamer at best, or as a liar at worst, and, in any event, a self-confessed eavesdropper whose word would scarcely require Barstow's sure denial. I would cut a ridiculous figure in the eyes of the whole community, and Barbara Frayne would be justified in holding me in utter abhorrence and contempt.

No. Denunciation was not to be thought of for a moment. It was far better to bear the burden of an increased responsibility and rely upon my own conscience than to court disaster to myself and possibly work irreparable injury to another whose fate was in my keeping.

* * * * * * *

I found the company at the Melton House much as I had left it, except that the circle about the big woodstove had increased until there was not a vacant seat in the place. Indeed, some of the chairs held two occupants apiece, and the writing table had been pulled up behind the chairs to serve as a gallery for half a dozen auditors. Over the group hung a blue canopy of tobacco smoke, and some of the men nearest the stove had removed their coats and were sitting in their shirtsleeves, but as the room was not unbearably hot I concluded that that habit and not heat prompted the informality.

A keen-faced country lawyer was just finishing a story as I entered, and Bayne shifted to one side of his chair and silently invited me to share it with him. I did not fancy this picnic familiarity, however, and, answering his suggestion with a shake of my head, remained standing near the doorway.

"That was the last recommendation I ever gave to any man," the speaker was saying, "and I wouldn't give one today to my own brother."

"I don't blame you," responded an undersized man seated on the writing table. "I had a case once, and——"

"Do you remember Lincoln's celebrated letter of recommendation?" interrupted "No. 3" of the jury.

"No. Let's have it," responded the first speaker.

"Well," continued my associate, "somebody wrote Lincoln asking him about a fellow in Illinois who had given the President's name as a reference in a matter of business credit. Lincoln answered something like this: 'I have your letter as to Mr. Blank's financial responsibility. In reply I beg to say he has a wife and child which should be worth to any man at least five hundred thousand dollars. Besides these he has to my certain knowledge in his office a deal table worth about a dollar fifty, and two cane-bottomed chairs worth as much more. Also in the corner of his office there is a rat hole which will bear looking into. Yours truly, A. Lincoln.'"

I noticed that the little man on the writing table did not join in the laugh which greeted this story, but I saw his lips move as though he were attempting to make himself heard. His small face betrayed conceit and self-importance in every line, despite its utter insignificance, to which his pompadour hair and small red side whiskers gave the finishing touch.

"That's very good," he began, as the laughter ceased. "Most of the stories about Lincoln are entirely apocryphal, but that one's so old I suppose he's entitled to it whether it's true or not. However, such things do happen. I had a case myself once——"

"Speaking of recommendations"—interposed a fat, good natured looking attorney, seated next to Bayne.

"Which is precisely what I was speaking of," insisted the little man. "Some years ago I had a case——"

"Speaking of recommendations to mercy," calmly pursued the interrupter, "I got my experience early in the game when I was filled with the milk of human kindness and mushy accordingly."

The hotel clerk brought me a chair from the dining room, and as I thanked him I called his attention to the red-whiskered individual whose face was a ludicrous study of wrath and disappointment.

"That's 'I-had-a-case Carson,'" he explained, in a whisper. "Nobody believes he ever had a case, but he lives for these occasions and he's wild to get the floor. The fellow talking just now loves to choke him off, and the other lawyers devil him all they can."

The little attorney's expression of impotent indignation demonstrated that he was being "devilled" almost past endurance, but after glaring at the speaker for a moment he pulled out a big, black cigar, savagely bit off the end, and tried to engage his neighbor in conversation.

"Well, my man appeared so dazed and hopeless," the fat attorney was saying, "that I saw nothing for it but to plead guilty and throw myself on the mercy of the court. He was a lawyer, but I thought if I could get a lot of people to put in a good word for him, I could offset that, and before long I accumulated the greatest set of previous-good-character testimonials you ever saw in your life. They were so sweeping and cordial that I positively wept to think of letting such a good man go to prison, and I determined to attempt his acquittal. But say! Did any of you ever try to get up a defense fund for one of those blameless-life fellows? Well, if you do you'll find good words are all their friends will give 'em. I couldn't work fifty cents out of the whole bunch. My client was 'one of God's noblemen'—but he was such a clever lawyer surely he could conduct his own case without expense; he was 'the salt of the earth'—but they they didn't propose to put up any dust for him; he had 'a pure and spotless past' and his 'home life was very beautiful'—but if funds were needed for his defense he'd better go to jail. These were the only contributions I received from his eulogizers. Then I sounded my man on making restitution. 'Try it,' he said, and I tried it with such success that I was given a virtual assurance of a sentence not exceeding three years if he'd return what he'd stolen. Ten years was what I otherwise expected him to get, and I told him so when he asked my opinion. He considered the matter for some time and then dashed all my hopes.

"'I'll stand pat,' he answered.

"'You mean you'd rather serve treble time than give up the whole or any part of your stealings?' I demanded, indignantly.

"'I stand pat,' he repeated calmly. 'If the fellow had had kith or kin in need of the swag I wouldn't have blamed him, but he didn't have anybody but himself to look out for. He simply preferred to risk ten years than give up his ill-gotten gains, and I never did find out where he'd hid 'em. With the aid of those good character certificates, however, I got his sentence cut down to five years, for which service he never as much as said thank you.'

"Didn't you get your fee?" inquired Bayne.

"Not a cent!" exclaimed the narrator. "He was a born criminal with a blameless past."

"I had a case like that once," piped up Carson.

"Hold on, I haven't told you the worst yet," continued the fat man. "Two years ago when I was down in a scrag-town in Oklahoma I was arrested for riding a bicycle on the sidewalk, and the justice before whom I was hauled was my friend of the blameless past. Well, sirs, he fined me twenty-five dollars without the faltering of an eyelid, and I believe if I hadn't paid the fine and left town instanter he'd have had me in jail for six months! That's what I call professional courtesy. What were you going to say, Carson?"

There was an audible titter at the question, but the little bore lost no time in grasping his opportunity.

"I was going to tell you about a case I had involving professional courtesy—" he began, hurriedly.

"By Jove, that reminds me!" burst in another lawyer. "One time when I was practicing out in Montana——"

"Excuse me!" interrupted Carson, indignantly.

"Certainly, old man—don't mention it," continued the tormentor. "I'll excuse you any time, but I want the other fellows to hear this yarn—and it's no yarn either, but a true bill from Montana, where no liars are at large. Well, as I was saying, when I was practicing out there the state prosecutor and the defendant's counsel in a murder trial were opposition candidates for congress, and in the middle of the case the prosecutor saw that the evidence was going against him and that an acquittal would be mighty popular. So he ups and requests the dismissal of the indictment and the discharge of the prisoner, knowing that the same would reflect great credit on himself and knock the wind out of his opponent. But the other fellow was onto the game, and with a sure case he hadn't any notion of letting his adversary win out on any magnanimous bluff of that sort. So he rears up on his hind legs and fights to have the case submitted to the jury, claiming his client was entitled to an acquittal at the hands of his peers, and nothing less than that would satisfy him, and finally the judge decided to allow the innocent gent to be exonerated by the jurors and submitted the case to them. Well, sirs, that jury stayed out 'bout fifteen seconds and then brought in a verdict of guilty!"

"You say that happened in Montana?" asked a late comer, joining in the general laugh.

"Yes, sir," was the serious answer.

"Well, I wouldn't believe it if you'd located it twice as far away," remarked the questioner, as he took a chair which the clerk offered him and sat down beside me. "Would you?" he inquired, smilingly, as he offered me a cigar.

"I don't know," I answered, as some one started another story. "Can a prosecutor dismiss a case if he thinks the prisoner innocent?"

"Of course," answered my neighbor. "If he couldn't, he might have to continue prosecuting a man whom he believed innocent. That would be horrible. By-the-way, I want to introduce myself, Mr. Lambert. I am Abel Corning, one of Mr. Gilbert's assistants."

I glanced with interest at the speaker's face, which bore a certain resemblance to Hunt's, but though there was no mistaking the two personalities, there was enough to justify Hunt's subterfuge. Now, if I denounced the unknown emissary who traveled under the name of Abel Corning, and could produce no one but the real Abel Corning to answer the description, who would be most involved, the prosecutor or his opponent? Hunt had more than risen to the emergency. He had surmounted it.

"I am very glad to meet you, Mr. Corning," I responded. "Do you happen to know a lawyer named Hunt?" I added, after a pause.

"Hunt?" he repeated. "No, I never heard of him. Why do you ask?"

"Merely because——" I began, but allowed myself to be interrupted as Carson piped up:

"I had a case like that once——"

XV.

There were but few spectators in the court room when we filed into the jury box on the second morning of the trial, and Bayne confessed that he had heard rumors of an adjournment the previous evening. Others had heard the same thing, and it was the general opinion of the jurors that the public had received definite information of some hitch in the proceedings and we would be dismissed for the day as soon as court opened. All doubt of the matter was dispelled however, when Judge Dudley ascended the bench and a young attorney, whom I had not previously noticed, rose and requested an adjournment, owing to the sudden illness of Mr. Ferris Barstow, counsel for the defense.

I was considerably alarmed to find myself instinctively interpreting this excuse as a cover to hide the defendant's collapse, for it indicated that the events of the previous evening had had more effect upon me than I realized, and I began to fear I was hopelessly biased in my opinion of the counsel, if not of his cause. If I allowed myself to question Barstow's motive in an unimportant matter of delay, I would soon find my suspicions coloring all the testimony he introduced and end by prejudging the case. But if I had been inclined to encourage my passing thought, Gilbert's reception of his adversary's request would have checked me. He not only betrayed no suspicion of bad faith, but expressed hearty and sincere regret at the cause of the delay, and joined in requesting the court to grant the proposed adjournment. Thereupon Judge Dudley promptly announced a recess until the following morning, and discharged us with the customary caution touching our conversation and conduct. The words were no sooner out of his mouth than I hastened from the room, and though I heard Bayne call out to me as I reached the door I pretended not to hear him, for I was anxious to start for Hefryville at the earliest possible moment. With this idea I made straight for the stable, and directed the proprietor to have my horse and trap sent to the Melton house at once.

If the man heard my request he was evidently not impressed with the necessity for haste, for he merely nodded his head and continued whittling a stick, as though I had not spoken. I waited a moment and then impatiently repeated my order.

"Want em now?" he inquired, slowly, blinking stupidly up at me from the overturned bucket on which he was seated.

"Yes. Now! Immediately! At once!" I answered, testily.

"W-a-l—ain't that too bad!" he muttered, thoughtfully, stroking his beard.

"What's too bad?" I inquired, impatiently.

"Why, that you should be wantin' yure buggy today," he drawled. "I kinder calculated you'd hev no sorter use for it Jong 's court was settin', and I loaned it out to Rube Stacey."

"Loaned my wagon?" I roared. "Well, of all the——"

Words failed me, and I stood glaring in helpless wrath at the imperturbable countenance upturned to me.

"Did you lend the horse, too?" I concluded, with forced calmness.

"No, sir. No, siree. I wouldn't think of loaning none of the critters in my barn. No, indeed."

The aggrieved tone of the reply was so utterly ridiculous that I almost laughed in spite of myself.

"Well, I wish you hadn't thought of lending the buggy, either," I retorted. "However, I suppose I ought to be grateful. Put the horse to the best wagon you've got and let me get away. I'm in a hurry."

The countryman tipped his bucket forward, picked up a straw, and learned back against the stable wall.

"Ain't that too bad!" he drawled.

"What's the matter now?" I demanded, sharply.

"We ain't got a thing on wheels in the place, mister, and I don't reckon there's as much as a go-cart left in town. The hull outfit was hired last night."

I could have shaken the man in sheer rage, and for some seconds I did not trust myself to speak. Finally I controlled my voice sufficiently for a last suggestion.

"Have you got a saddle?" I inquired.

"No-o. Yes, sir. I think likely I kin get you a saddle off the Perkins people, if you kin stick on the English kind."

"I can," I answered. "Try the Perkins people, whoever they are, and hurry up about it."

The man rose slowly from his perch, stretched himself, scratched his head thoughtfully, and at last wandered off in the direction of the Melton house. Ten minutes later he reappeared carrying a first class English saddle and bridle, a pair of smart riding breeches, a hunting crop, a pair of spurs, and an assortment of soft caps.

"Se if any of them 'll fit ye," he suggested, as he dropped the collection on a bench.

"Where in the world did you get all that loot?" I inquired, as he disappeared toward the stable with the saddle and bridle.

"Over to Perkins'" he answered. "Help yourself. There's plenty more truck over there if them don't suit yer."

With some misgiving that I might be arrested on sight by the accommodating Perkins, or whoever owned the outfit, I made a judicious selection, and soon found myself as comfortably equipped as I would have been in my own belongings.

"Looks as though them things was made for ye," ejaculated the stableman, as he reappeared with my horse. "I thought yer was about the cut of them Perkins boys."

Not knowing the Perkins boys, I was doubtful whether this was intended as a compliment or not, and busied myself readjusting the saddle-girths.

"That ought to be a good ridin'-horse," commented the man, and then as I swung into the saddle he added, "Reckon this ain't the first time you backed him—eh?"

"No," I answered, shortly.

"Learned your ridin' out west, too," he vouchsafed, disinterestedly.

"What makes you think so?" I inquired, somewhat less curtly.

"Way you mount," he answered. "I was to Montana for a year onct and I seed they generally turned more to the tail than the head of a horse when they backed him."

"I learned the little I know in Arizona," I answered.

"Then I guess you know 'nough to keep from fallin' off both sides to onct," he reflected. "There won't be no charge for keepin' the horse on 'count of the buggy," he added, as I started.

With this comforting assurance I left the stable-yard and turned at once towards Hefryville, but I had no sooner reached the main road than my plans were immediately changed. A girl on horseback was approaching from the opposite direction, and though she was using a side-saddle she resembled Miss Frayne sufficiently to make me beat a regretful retreat, for I dared not risk another meeting with her just then. But even as I turned and rode towards the Melton House I argued the matter with myself. Was it not my duty to warn her that she was doing her friend more harm than good by interfering in the Emory case? Could I see her subjecting herself to the most unpleasant consequences without a word of caution? Suppose she attempted to apprise other jurymen of coming events, would she not incur the gravest risks imaginable? If I should be compelled, in pursuance of my sworn duty, to record a verdict which would terminate my friendship with her, might I not still put her upon her guard in a way she might remember and some day understand?

I had almost convinced myself that it was my duty to turn in the opposite direction before I reached the hotel, but the recollection of my former disinterested experiments dissuaded me, and, hastily tying my horse to the hitching-rail, I ran to the piazza steps and fairly bumped into Deake Gilbert as he came out of the door.

"Well—well, Mr. Lambert!" he exclaimed. "I hardly recognized you in those togs. Going riding? Hello—who have we here?" he added, and then without waiting for an answer he passed me and ran down the steps.

It was not in the pleasantest frame of mind that I reached my room, and what I saw from my window was not calculated to soothe my feelings.

Miss Frayne had halted directly in front of the hotel, and Gilbert was standing beside her horse, patting its neck and talking earnestly to her. The girl listened with averted face, sometimes interrupting him with a word or two, but ever returning his steady gaze. Finally he turned and apparently spoke to the horse, and I could see a smile hovering on Miss Barbara's lips. The instant Gilbert looked up, however, she glanced away, and I could see that her cheeks were flushing at his words and the smile had not quite disappeared. The sight angered me and made me angry with myself. If the prosecutor—the man primarily responsible for Alice Emory's trial—still retained the friendship of one of her warmest friends, why should I conclude that a verdict of guilty would exclude me from the list of her acquaintances? If Gilbert were received so would I be! If there was a distinction between us it was in my favor. I was a weak-minded fool to shun the society of this girl on conscientious scruples. Gilbert evidently did not fear her influence upon his action, and there was no reason why I should not display equal self-confidence.

It must have been my steady gaze which attracted her attention, for, as I stood watching her, Miss Frayne suddenly glanced up at my window, recognized me, and bowed. I drew back hastily without returning her greeting, and then hurried downstairs to repair the omission and apologize for my ill manners.

When I reached the street, however, Gilbert had gone and Miss Frayne was rapidly disappearing in the distance. Without a moment's delay I untied my horse, and springing on his back cantered off in pursuit. Before I was within hailing distance, however, the girl swung into a side road, and although I lifted my hat as she glanced in my direction she did not apparently see me, and when I reached the corner she was far in advance. I urged my horse forward and was rapidly overtaking her when she, too, broke from a trot to a canter, which became a gallop as I continued to gain upon her, and for a hundred yards or more I rode in a cloud of choking and blinding dust. Then suddenly I felt the impulse of a challenge in her increasing speed, and touching my horse with my heels I settled down to ride. Instantly she responded with a flash of her whip, and away we thundered in a breakneck race, which terminated almost as suddenly as it began, for her hat blew off and she immediately began to draw rein.

"I surrender!" she shouted, as I shot alongside of her. "My hat's off! Stop, please!"

I hauled at my horse's head, but both animals were excited and we covered another quarter of a mile before we finally pulled up, panting breathlessly.

"I'd—I'd have beaten you if—if it hadn't been for that miserable hat!" she gasped, defiantly, as soon as she could speak.

She had never looked more lovely, her cheeks flaming from the exercise and her eyes flashing with the light of combat.

"We'd have beaten him easily—wouldn't we, Dolly?" she continued, patting her horse's head.

"I doubt it," I asserted, boldly. "My horse isn't as pretty as Dolly, but he is well-bred."

"Too well-bred to cut his acquaintances, I hope. Don't you, Dolly."

She glanced up at me sharply as she leaned forward and stroked the mare's ears.

"I followed you to apologize," I began. "Please forgive me."

"It's very much easier to bow than to apologize for not doing so. However, I suppose you were cross."

"Cross?"

"Yes—and you're cross now—aren't you?"

"No, indeed."

"Well, severe would perhaps be the safer word," she suggested, with a smile. "Why are you so severe and stately?"

"I was not conscious of being so," I answered.

"Is it possible to look like that without feeling it?" she laughed. "I should think it—would hurt."

"That isn't what hurts," I responded. "But I deserve anything you care to say. I did not mean to be rude, but I was, and I hope you'll forgive me."

"I think I will in time—that is, if my hat isn't spoiled," she added, laughingly. "It's a brand new 'sailor,' and if you've made me break it—"

I rode back, and recovering the hat, handed it to her. She examined it carefully and then looked up at me smilingly.

"No—it isn't hurt," she announced, "and you're forgiven. Now tell me why you avoided me this morning."

I hesitated, not wishing to reopen the forbidden subject, but frankness seemed the only reliable safeguard for the future.

"I trust you will not misunderstand me, Miss Frayne," I began, "but after our conversation last night I felt I had no right to meet you until my present duty—"

"After our conversation last night?" she interrupted. "What conversation?"

"You know," I answered.

"Indeed I do not," she asserted, with a shade of annovance in her voice.

The denial disappointed me, and I did not care to conceal my feeling.

"You must certainly remember telephoning me," I responded, coldly.

"Telephoning you. I never telephoned you in my life."

I stared at the girl in amazement, but her puzzled expression was sincerity itself.

"Well, somebody—" I began.

Then suddenly it flashed upon me that the person at the other end of the wire had spoken truly when she announced herself as the housekeeper, and that my confidante was no other than Madeleine Mapes.

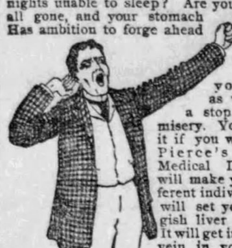
(To be Continued.)

DO YOU FEEL THIS WAY.

Do you feel all tired out? Do you sometimes think you just can't work away at your profession or trade any longer? Do you have a poor appetite, and lay awake at nights unable to sleep? Are your nerves all gone, and your stomach too? Has ambition to forge ahead in the world left you? If so, you might as well put a stop to your misery. You can do it if you will. Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery will make you a different individual. It will set your sluggish liver to work. It will get into every vein in your body and purify your blood. It will set things right in your stomach, and your appetite will come back. If there is any tendency in your family toward consumption, it will keep that dread destroyer away. Even after consumption has almost gained a foothold in the form of a lingering cough, bronchitis, or bleeding at the lungs, it will bring about speedy cure in 98 per cent. of all cases. It is a remedy prepared by Dr. R. V. Pierce, of Buffalo, N. Y., whose *advice is given free* to all who wish to write him. His great success has come from his wide experience and varied practice.

O. S. Copenhaver, Esq., of Mount Union, Huntingdon Co., Pa. (Box 222), writes: "About twelve years ago I was suddenly taken with a pain in the pit of the stomach which was so violent I could not walk straight. It would grow more severe until it caused waterbrash and vomiting of a slimy yellow water. A physician told me I had a form of dyspepsia and treated me for about six months with but little benefit. Another physician told me my liver was out of order and that I had indigestion. He gave me a treatment and I got some better but only for a short time. I then called another one, who said I had chronic indigestion, ulceration of the lining of the stomach, torpid liver and kidney affection. He treated me for more than a year and I felt much better, but it did not last. I then took to using several widely advertised patent medicines, but received no more than temporary relief. I then tried Dr. Pierce's medicines, using his 'Golden Medical Discovery,' and the 'Pleasant Pellets,' and in two months' time I was feeling better than I had for years before."

Don't be wheedled by a penny-grabbing dealer into taking inferior substitutes for Dr. Pierce's medicines, recommended to be "just as good."



For twenty years Miss Matilda was in charge of the library in the small town where she lived. She assumed the position when she was eighteen, and so, as years are counted in this day and generation, even after two decades of service, she could not be called elderly. She had always taken great pride in her duties. It gave her a sense of importance to hold what she secretly considered a literary position, and she felt intimately acquainted with the authors of the books she handled.

Miss Matilda regarded her office with a seriousness that prevented her marriage. When the library was started it was by private subscription and Miss Matilda felt it a great honor to be chosen librarian. She considered it an honor so great that it placed her under lasting obligations to the board of lady managers from whom she received her appointment. To be sure, the salary was so small it was scarcely worth noticing, but Miss Matilda was not entirely dependent upon it and the glory of the office more than made up for the meagreness of her pay.

Throughout her twenty years of service she was engaged to Giles Latimer, who for all these twenty years was a constant and patient lover, hoping always that his lady would weary of public life and be willing to retire to the privacy of a home which should be of his providing. He did not urge his claim unduly. Like Matilda, he felt that her's were unusual honors and responsibilities, and until she was fully ready to relinquish them, he was resolved to be patient.

The library was open every afternoon in the week and three of the evenings. Promptly at nine o'clock on these evenings, Giles went to the library to escort Matilda to her home. He was very self-effacing on these occasions. If it was fair weather, he waited outside. If it was stormy or cold he went inside, where he made his presence as unobtrusive as possible. Matilda must not be disturbed in the performance of her duties, he thought, and Giles, not being much of a reader himself, regarded with respectful awe one who was on familiar terms with books. He was thoroughly impressed with a sense of Matilda's importance, but sometimes when he thought of how the years were passing and with them their youth, he wished she did not value her profession so highly.

The librarian was a favorite with her patrons. She had read all of the books contained in the library and she seemed to know what would suit each reader's fancy. Then she was never unreasonable in the matter of fines when books were kept out over time. Then, too, the library was such a pleasant place for the ladies. People confided in Matilda, and, while she never betrayed confidence or encouraged malicious gossip, the library was headquarters for the news of the town.

Matilda looked so comfortably at home seated before her desk with a bit of fancy work in her hands. She was really a pleasant domestic scene. During the year she managed to finish a good deal of fancy work, which, at Christmas time, found a ready sale and so increased her income. Her duties were not very arduous. Most of the library accounts she "kept in her head" and she had no particular system in conducting her office. The books were there to be taken out, read and returned. Matilda was there as a caretaker and dispenser of literature. There was nothing difficult about an arrangement of this sort, and the years went calmly with Matilda. She was sure of Giles; she was engaged in congenial occupation; and she was contented, so she drifted along, thinking that some time she would marry, though the "sometime" was in the vague future.

Occasionally Giles would press her to name a day for their marriage, but Matilda invariably begged him to wait, ending with the unanswerable argument, "The ladies would think me so ungrateful if I should resign."

Matilda liked the sense of importance which her office gave her. She was known to every one as "the librarian," and the title carried with it a sense of dignity and superior education. She was not the least disagreeable or "set up," but she felt that she held a responsible post and she had held it so long, she believed it would be difficult to find anyone else who could perform her duties as well.

The town was slow of growth and there was little perceptible change in the library. The board held yearly elections, but as the members usually re-elected one another it remained practically the same. New books were added and old ones worn out. Sometimes there would be little flurries among the ladies of the board, since one of the number was inclined to be dictatorial and to confiscate books she considered unfit for public circulation, but every one "got along" with Matilda and she always managed to calm the troubled waters.

She grew to know the library so well she could "lay her finger" on any book that was wanted. The literature which had crept into the collection and was declared improper by the board, she ostracized in a hidden corner and never permitted it to go into circulation unless especially requested by someone whose years were a safeguard against contamination. She herself, never read these things tabooed, and spoke of them coldly when called in consultation.

And so the years drifted along until it seemed as if affairs would always go on as they were, when suddenly there came an upheaval. It was at the time when Carnegie was distributing library buildings broadcast throughout the land, and one of the progressive ladies of the town concluded their library was worthy a new home. Hitherto one rather small room had been sufficient to hold their stock of literature, but now it was time it should be enlarged and thrown open to the public. Private subscription was all very well in the beginning, but it was not conducive to advance. The progressive lady put herself in communication with Carnegie and, after necessary preliminaries, the new building loomed an assured fact on the horizon.

Miss Matilda had never been happier. The importance of her office was reinforced. The library was to be greatly enlarged and possibly she would require an assistant. Her marriage with Giles receded farther and farther into the future. At this critical period, she could not desert the ladies. Perhaps after an assistant had been thoroughly trained, she might resign from public service, but of course it would take time to get everything in smooth working order. This was the way Matilda reasoned; that there might be another side to the question did not occur to her as a possibility.

Giles heard rumors that informed him Matilda's dynasty was threatened. She was not a trained librarian. All she knew about the office she had taught herself, and she had no method or system. She was not versed in library ethics—in truth she was unconscious that such things existed. With the new building other factors had entered the board of managers, and these were not altogether favorable to Matilda. She knew the old stock of books thoroughly. Everybody liked her, but an up-to-date library should not be conducted like an afternoon tea, and Matilda was capable of no other way of presiding. She should be retained if she cared to remain, but not as head librarian; this office was to fall to a young woman well versed in the profession.

Giles heard of all this, and he sought to spare Matilda the grief this new condition of affairs would impose. He became so persistent in pressing his claim that gentle Matilda very nearly grew indignant.

"Why the idea, Giles!" she exclaimed. "How can you ask me to resign at a time like this? The least I can do for the ladies is to stay and get them started in the new building. It would put them in an awful box if I were to leave now."

Unconscious of the impending blow, Matilda planned and arranged her coming duties as seemed fitting to her mind. None in authority had the heart or courage to tell her, and Matilda was so certain of her position and so absorbed in her dreams of the future, that she gleaned no hint from the voice of rumor.

It was near the hour for closing when Matilda received official notice from the board of managers of the coming change in her position. It arrived in the shape of a note brought by a boy, the son of the board's president. He was aware of the contents of the note, and lingered, round-eyed, to watch its effect. Matilda was occupied at the time of his arrival and laid the note on her desk. When she read it first, she did not fully grasp its contents. She took a little time to think before she read it again, and, conscious of the boy's curious eyes, she summoned self-control enough to say, "You may tell your mother I will think the matter over."

The boy went reluctantly away, lingering on his steps, with head turned backward. In the hallway he met his mother. She was a tender-hearted woman and had come to offer what consolation lay in her power.

"She never done a thing," the boy imparted, in a piercing whisper.

The library was empty and for a moment Matilda's head drooped to her desk. At the sound of footsteps she raised it proudly and began to put things in closing order.

"I'm real sorry," the president of the board began. "I feel it's real—"

"You needn't say a word," Matilda interrupted, speaking briskly. "I intend to be married soon, it doesn't matter."

There were spots of scarlet burning on her cheeks and her eyes were unusually bright.

"You've always done so well," the president persisted. "But you know that with the new building and all—"she went on vageuly.

"It isn't necessary to explain!" Matilda returned; "did you want a book this evening? It's about closing time."

"No," responded the president. "I only wanted to say that we appreciate—"

"Now, don't try to say a word. I understand perfectly," Matilda broke in with dicouraging cheerfulness. "Good-night," she said in dismissal, feeling that she owed no further duty to the ladies.

"Goodnight," the other echoed.

Matilda's head drooped to her desk again when she was alone. Scalding tears rose to her eyes. She was suffering a bitter moment. She did not hear the door open and close when Giles came in. He hesitated, and then deliberately turned the key in the lock. He went to Matilda and put his arms around her, drawing her head to his breast.

"There, there, Tilda," he said, huskily, patting her shoulder, "do you care so much?"

"Yes, I care—awfully," she confessed, trying to choke back her sobs.

"You don't have to care," Giles told her, in his slow, comforting way.

"Giles, you tried to save me from this and I wouldn't listen. I'm ashamed to marry you now; it looks as if I were taking you as a last resort. I wouldn't blame you if you asked me to resign my position with you," she said, laughing nervously.

Giles tightened his clasp around her and ignored her remark.

"You don't have to care," he persisted, doggedly.

Recent Literature.

The following books have been received by The Blade from the publishers named. For further information address the publishers, not us:

From Charles Scribner's Sons, New York:

Anything from the pen of Henry Van Dyke commands attention, and the volume appearing under the title, Essays in Application, is no exception. It is made up of a collection of essays upon various things connected with the conduct of life from the standpoint of one who wishes to be guided in everyday judgments by a sane idealism. The volume is a good one to pick up at odd moments.

In the Name of the Bodleian entitles a group of chatty and amusing essays by Augustine Birrell. It begins with a pleasant sketch of the great library at Oxford, founded by Sir Thomas Bodley, which includes a glimpse of some of the wonderful things kept in this institution.

Animal Heroes is the name of a new book of animal stories by Ernest Thompson Seton. The animals described are those trained to civilized life, and the narratives concerning them make up an attractive book, illustrated with pictures and marginal drawings by its author.

The Wood Fire in No. 3 is the latest book by F. Hopkinson Smith. It comprises a chain of stories related by a congenial party of gentlemen, gathered around a wood fire, to tell tales of their own and of other people's adventures. The book is an artistic piece of literary work and an altogether charming story.

From Harper & Brothers, New York:

American Diplomacy, by John Bassett Moore, is a book which relates the diplomatic history of America, beginning with conditions as they were at the time of the Declaration of Independence. Many of the affairs in the earlier and the later years of which people knew little of the inside history, he makes clear as to their real bearing upon the interests of this country. The volume is interesting and valuable from an historical point of view. Portraits of the Presidents are scattered through its pages.

The Reconstruction of Religious Belief, by Professor W. H. Mallock, discusses the contradictions between science and religion as they exist today. The volume is designed by its author to establish the validity of religious belief in general, and possesses great value in this direction.

From Little, Brown & Co., Boston:

A discussion of the causes, both in the north and the south, that led up to the civil war, by John G. Reed, forms the contents of a large volume appearing under the title, The Brothers' War. Mr. Reed is a southerner, but his volume is a calm and unbiased account, which makes an excellent addition to the literature of the momentous struggle.

In a large volume of five hundred pages, entitled Il Libro D'Oro, have been collected over a hundred and twenty miracle stories and sacred legends, translated from the Italian by Mrs. Francis Alexander. They are written by fathers of the church and published in Italy in the three centuries previous to the nineteenth. These stories and legends are interesting, not only to the members of the Catholic church, but to the general reader, because they show the means by which the religious teachers of the day maintained their hold upon the people.

From D. Appleton & Co., New York:

Twisted Eglantine, by H. Marriott Watson, is a tale of English social life in the early part of the nineteenth century. The story hinges upon the rivalry between a man of fashion and an honest young country squire for the hand of the heroine of the love romance.

Vivien is another English story. This is related by W. B. Maxwell and describes the struggles of a young girl to be self-supporting. The tale is very long, but the action is made sufficiently exciting to prevent monotony.

From The Bobbs-Merrill Co., Indianapolis:

The book entitled The House of a Thousand Candles, by Meredith Nicholson, recounts the strange and mysterious happenings that occurred in a large, unfinished house in Indiana. The story is full of exciting incidents and there is a love romance to round it out satisfactorily.

Everyday Etiquette. The title of this book is a complete explanation of its contents. It is prepared by Marion Harland and contains full and sensible instructions as to all social forms and customs.

Radiant Motherhood. Margaret E. Sangster is the author of this volume, which is a book of good and wise counsel regarding the many puzzling questions that confront the mother from the time when her first child is born until she goes to visit her children's children. It is an excellent work in its particular field.

WHY LINCOLN WAS POPULAR

Qualities Which Made Him Beloved All His Life.

Perhaps his most winning quality with young and old alike was his sincere belief in his fellowtownsmen and their community. Local pride never had a more buoyant champion than he. For him Sangamon county in general, and New Salem in particular, was the promised land, and he was confident that the people were equal to the task of developing it according to its needs. Thus when it was first suggested that the shallow, snag-bound Sangamon river was navigable and might be made a great highway of commerce, he eagerly championed the theory and worked with voice, pen and hand to realize a practical result. The Sangamon is still unnavigable and New Salem has disappeared, but Lincoln's plea for improving the waterway remains as evidence of his sincere belief in the future of the community and toshow us what he could do with a weak cause at the age of twenty-one.

The argument is not remarkable, but it is exceedingly interesting and suggestive. Although he was young and boyishly enthusiastic, Lincoln did not overstate the possibilities nor underestimate the difficulties of his case; and despite the really laughable attempts he was afterward made to force the passage of the Sangamon, there was nothing ludicrous in his plea. What he claimed sounds reasonable, and what he hoped for possible, even in the face of failure.

This early effort plainly indicates Lincoln's natural aptitude for logical statement. But it does more than that. It displays a trait which few lawyers possess; for the ability to present facts clearly, concisely and effectively without taking undue advantage of them is a rare legal quality. It requires not only ability, but courage; not only tact, but character. It is one of the infallible tests which distinguish the legal bravo from the jurist, and it will be demonstrated in a future chapter that Lincoln fulilfilled it in masterful fashion.—Century.

STUPIDITY OF SHEE I

"The cattlemen and sheepmen are coming to a more amicable understanding, and few more sheepkillings are expected," said Douglas McArthur, a sheepman of Prineville, at the Imperial yesterday. "In fact, many of the cattlemen are buying sheep, and the enmity which existed between the two factions is not so strong as it used to be, in my opinion.

"Sheep are very easily killed, and two or three men with rifles can slaughter a surprisingly large number of them in a very short time. The animals, when they become frightened, immediately bunch up, seeking safety in numbers, and this makes it all the easier for those who shoot them. When they bunch, several of them can be killed with one shot.

"Sheep are peculiar animals, and when they get excited make a good deal of trouble. Let one of the band break away from the bunch and all will follow it. I have known one sheep to jump over a bank into a river or a creek and be followed by dozens of them. I remember once when I pulled six of the animals out of a hole in a creek not more than six feet across. One sheep led the way and the others followed until the hole was filled up."—Portland Oregonian.

Not a Cannibal.

"Can't see why you're so smitten with her."

"Why, because she's so deucedly pretty."

"Beauty's only skin deep."

"Well, great Scott! I'm no cannibal. That's deep enough for me."—Cleveland Leader.

A GUARANTEED CURE FOR PILES.

Itching, Blind, Bleeding or Protruding Piles. Your druggist will refund money if PAZO OINTMENT fails to cure you in 6 to 14 days. 50c.

MAINE SNAKES.

Once in a while some senator will tell a story which is away beyond belief, too exaggerated for anyone to even try to believe. Then Senator Hale, of Maine, tells a story concerning 'Squire Johnson, of Eastport, who never saw things as they actually were, but multiplied everything until his lack of veracity became well known all over the city and county, even the little children knowing superficially of his weakness.

One afternoon some boys found a lot of harmless little garter snakes out in the wood, no one of them longer than an index finger. Two of the boys thought it best to leave them unharmed, because they are not venomous, but one little fellow said:

"Let's take 'em into town and show 'em to 'Squire Johnson. He never saw a snake less than twenty feet long."—Myerson's American Family Magazine.

The Farmstead

Questions for Answer.

The following questions are submitted to readers to answer. We do this in the hope of getting the results of actual and successful experience, which will be the most valuable answers possible:

Can any of the Farmstead readers give me a formula to make molasses from sugar beets? What will remove the strong beet taste from the syrup? —R., Argos, Ind.

I have a flock of nice white Wyandotte hens. Sometimes two or three of them will take sick; their droppings are white, creamy, and soon they die. Will some reader tell the cause and give a cure? I also have a cow, is healthy and eats well, but goes dry seven months before calving. Would like to know the reason.—R., Penbroke, N. H.

Would like to know the best time to trim cherry trees; and what causes the bark on the trees to become rough. —N., Trenton, Mo.

Would be pleased if someone would give me a recipe for making popcorn balls, so that they will be crisp instead of tough.—D., Vevay, Ind.

I own a cow that has been afflicted with a bad cough for two or three years; she is fat, and appears to be in fine condition otherwise.—W., Springfield, Mo.

For Indigestion.

If the person suffering from indigestion will steep rhubarb root and take a cupful of the warm tea before each meal; or if the bowels move too freely, a cupful before breakfast, he will soon find relief.—M., Urban, Mich.

For Chilblains.

Take a lump of saltpeter the size of an egg, dissolve in hot water. Soak the feet thoroughly. Relief will be quickly obtained.—M., Urban, Mich.

Treatment for Horse.

C., Tiverton, O.: Take equal parts of Neatfoot's oil and oil of copava and bathe the afflicted parts two or three times a week; first cleanse with soap and water. Keep horse

QUESTION BUREAU ?

RULES—1.—Your real name and post-office address must be on the sheet with the question. Initials will not do. 2.—Ask only one question; that is, there may be several questions on the same subject, but not different subjects. 3.—The editor of the Bureau is not allowed to give the address of any person or firm, nor answer as to the reliability of any person or firm, nor to tell where you can buy anything or sell anything—nothing in the way of free advertising. 4.—We reserve the right to decline to answer any question not of general interest to a majority of our readers. 5.—We will not answer any questions on religious topics — no questions involving dogma or doctrine, or of Biblical interpretation; no prices of old coins or stamps; no arithmetical or grammatical questions. 6.—Don't ask replies by mail. If a question is of general interest to our readers, we will reply in print, but never by mail.

Radium.

Editor Question Bureau: Will you please tell me the origin of radium? What is radium? What is it used for, and why so valuable?—J. B., Fork Vale, Tenn.

In substance, these questions have been answered in these columns in a recent issue, but so many new characteristics are almost constantly developing in connection with radium that it is always interesting. Radium was discovered in 1898, at Paris, by Professor Pierre Curie and Mms. Slodowski Curie in collaboration with M. Bemont. Radium is a metal, but is prepared in the form of a chloride or a bromide. There are many remarkable characteristics of this extraordinary substance. It gives off three distinct types of rays, named after the first three leters of the Greek alphabet, alpha, beta and gamma. The alpha rays constitute about 99 per cent. of all the rays and consist of positively electrified particles. These were at first supposed to be uninfluenced by magnetism, but Professor E. Rutherford, of McGill university, Montreal, has recently shown that with a powerful magnetic field about 30 per cent. of the rays are deflected, and in a powerful electric field as high as 4 per cent. The deflection is in the opposite direction to the Beta rays. However, these discoveries cannot be clearly understood except by the physicist who has made a study of the subject.

Professor Curie says that it takes 5,000 tons of pitchblende, after the uranium has been extracted, to make a kilo (22 pounds) of radium. It formerly took three months, and even now takes about one month, to work the process, and it costs about $2,000 a ton to refine the uranium residues. This will explain the immense cost.

A little has already been heard about the transformations through which the gaseous emanation from radium passes, but only enough to make us realize how novel to popular curiosity. This is the change into helium, which occurs within a few days, and which may eventually prove to be only the first of a series of alterations in the gas. The modifications which occur in the solid residue left in a tube almost equally strange. For a period of three minutes that material emits alpha rays. During the next 21 minutes none of any kind can be detected. For the ensuing 28 minutes alpha, beta and gamma rays are generated simultaneously. To the unscientific mind it would seem as if tese differences indicated merely dissimilar states or conditions of the same substances. Professor Rutherford goes a little further, for he assumes that there is a succession of "products," one being converted into another. He names them "radium A," "radium B" and "radium C," respectively. When both gas and solid deposit have been removed from a tube in which the emanation has been confined, the walls of the receptable continue to show effects for a long time. At first only beta rays are thrown off, but, by degrees and after a few weeks, alpha rays also appear, their intensity slowly and steadily increasing. Professor Rutherford feels justified in believing that he has here two new substances, which should be designated "radium D" and "radium E."

Growing Mushrooms.

Editor Question Bureau: Will some one please tell me their experience in growing mushrooms, where there is a good market for them, what they are worth, and where to get the best spawn? I can't find any marked here in the south. All information about growing them will be gratefully received.—A. L., Bear Creek, Ala.

The cultivated mushroms are not grown as yet to any great extent in the United States. They may be had in cities and in limited quantities in some of the larger towns, but are usually scarce and expensive. Many people who would enjoy having mushrooms added to the home menu are debarred because of the difficulty of obtaining them except at considerable expense and because of unfamiliarity as to methods of home culture.

Owing to the increased interest in mushrooms G. F. Atkinson and R. Shore, of the New York Cornell Station, made a study of methods of mushroom culture on a small scale and have recently reported the results of this work in bulletin form. The main purpose of the work was to find out by actual trial what success might be expected by the beginner in growing mushrooms where no special houses and no elaborate preparations were made for their culture. Based on this work the following cultural directions are given.

Cellars or basement rooms where the temperature in the winter does not go below 55 degrees or does not rise above 65 degrees are suitable places for growing mushrooms. It is not advisable to make them under the living part of the house, since the odor of the manure will fill the house. They can also be grown in stables which are not too cold in the winter. Beds can be prepared in the cellar or basement floor by using the wall for one side of the bed. A board or plank 1 foot to 15 inches in width can then be stood on edge 3 to 4 feet from the basement wall and held in position by the necessary upright scantlings and supported at intervals to hold the material in position. In this way a box of the desired width and length can be made, the floor of the basement or cellar serving for the floor. If more space is desired, tiers of beds can be made: that is, 2 or 3 or 4 beds one above the other against the cellar wall. This is a common practice. Crosspieces from the upright can be nailed on upon which the floor of the upper beds can be laid. These shoud be made of lumber at least 1 inch in thickness. A space of about 20 to 24 inches should be left between the top of one bed and the bottom of the one directly above it. All these places should have some ventilation, but there should not be air currents, and care should be taken to make the rooms in which the mushrooms are planted clean and sweet in odor to avoid as far as possible any conditions which would encourage insects and other enemies of mushrooms.

The best soil for mushrooms is that made from horse manure from well-bedded stables. While some straw is desirable, any large percentage is objectionable and should be removed. The manure is cured by putting it under cover in piles 3 to 4 feet deep and of any length and width. These piles begin to ferment and heat.

To prevent this becoming too hot, the manure must be forked over and made into a new pile. This is done by beginning at one end, turning the manure over, shaking it slightly as it is turned into the new pile. It may feel to the hand quite hot, but as long as it does not turn white or get too dry the heating will not harm it. Usually after the manure is well heated, turning once in 2 or 3 days will answer, but sometimes it is necessary to turn every day.

If the manure becomes too dry, sufficient water may be sprinkled on to make it moist but not wet. It usually requires 10 to 15 or 18 days to cure, but should not be put in the beds or boxes until the temperature has gone down to 100 degrees F.

In the preparation of the bed a layer of the coarser, strawy portion of the manure is first put on the bottom and then thoroughly tramped or pounded down. Succeeding layers are then put on and each packed down until the bed is 10 to 12 or 14 inches thick. For a few days after the bed is made, the temperature is likely to increase, after which it will gradually cool off. A thermometer should be kept in the bed several inches below the surface, and when the temperature falls to 70 degrees F. the mushroom spawn may be planted. Sometimes 1 part of rich soil is used with 4 or 6 parts of manure in making up the beds. In such cases a little of the soil is added with each layer of manure.

Cultivated mushroom spawn, used for planting the beds, may be obtained from nearly any seedman in the form of dried manure bricks. Before using, it should be broken up into pieces about 2 inches in diameter. These pieces are planted in the bed 8 to 10 inches apart by making a suitable hole about 2 inches deep and pressing the spawn firmly into it. The hole should then be again filled with the manure and packed down firmly. The bed is then covered loosely with excelsior or straw to retain the moisture and to prevent a too rapid fall of temperature. At the end of a about a week this material is removed and the beds are then covered over with an inch to an inch and a half of rich loamy soil.

The object in casing the beds with soil is to retain the temperature within the material, which is necessary for the maintenance of the growth, and it also provides a firmer and cleaner substratum in which the stems of the mushrooms are mostly formed and they are thus cleaner when picked. In from 6 to 7 weeks mushrooms should begin to appear.

Mushrooms are ready to pick about the time the gills beneath the umbrella portion are a bright pink color. They remain in an edible condition until the gills become dark brown or even black, providing they are not decayed. If a hole is made in the bed in removing the mushrooms it should be filled in again with soil. The beds will need an occasional sprinkling of tepid water, but should not be made very wet. Too much moisture causes the mushrooms to damp off or rot.

The yield of mushrooms at the New York Cornell Station was at the rate of about 2 pounds per square foot of surface. The manure for the beds was composted last October and the beds spawned November 23. The mushrooms were picked January 1, or about 5 weeks after spawning the beds. A week later regular picking began, and the beds continued in bearing for about 3 months.

We give the above as possibly the best answer. Mushroom growing seems to depend more upon the individual grower than upon the method. We know of no market.

The Russian Language.

D. D., Cox's Mills, W. Va.:—The underlying element of the Russian language is Slavonic, but there are additions from Mongol, German and French sources, as well as from the ancient classic languages. It may be divided into three dialects—the Great Russian, the Little Russian and the White Russian, the first being the vernacular in the east and the center of the empire, the second in the southwest, with its particular home in the old Ukraine, and the third being found chiefly in Lithuania and the adjacent regions. The Russian is a highly inflected language, possessing seven cases and a large number of modal modifications for the verb. It is especially rich in augmentatives and diminutives, which may be carried through several degrees of intensity.

Antonio Stradivarius.

M. F. E., Pride, W. Va.: Antonio Stradivarius, or Stradivarii, was born in Cremona, Italy, in 1649; died 1737. He was a pupil of Nicolo Amati, in whose employment he remained until about 1679, when he began making violins on his own account. It was he who settled the typical pattern of the Cremona violin, and his instruments, for tone and finish, have never yet been excelled. His improvements consisted chiefly in lowering the heights of the arch of the belly, in making the four corner blocks more massive, in giving greater curvature to the middle ribs, in altering the setting of the sound-holes, and in making the scroll more massive and prominent. He reached the greatest perfection in his art about 1714. The inscription on the violin you possess may not make it a genuine Stradivarius instrument. It consists simply of the name of the famous inventor, the place of his residence and date.

Origin of Oracles.

Editor Question Bureau: Will you tell us something about oracles, their origin, etc., particularly in reference to the oracle of Delphi?—H. C., Lakeville, Ind.

The oracle is of antique origin. All peoples still in their infancy have their prophets and prophecies—a universal tribute paid by ignorance to charlatanism. Still, among the peoples who have a history the Egyptians seem to be the first where the priesthood centralized in the temples the influence which elsewhere was exercised by the dispersed priests. The belief that gods could and would reveal the future was common to the nations of antiquity, and few undertakings were entered upon without consultation of those who were able to interpret the sign by which the future was manifested. Among the Egyptians all the temples were probably oracular. Oracles were also used by the Hebrews, as in the consultation of the Urim and Thummim by the high priest, and the unlawful use of Teraphims, and consultations of the gods of Phoenicia and Samaria. They were also in use through Babylonia and Chaldea, where the responses were delivered by the priestesses, who slept alone in the temples as concubines of the gods. The Greeks and Romans were fully convinced of the importance of signs and omens and the need of their correct interpretation, as well as of the possibility of predicting the future by means of various methods. While consultation of the gods was thus possible anywhere, there were certain places especially chosen by the gods as seats of answer to human inquiries, and these oracles played an important part in ancient life. They were naturally connected with sanctuaries, and the answers were usually imparted or interpreted by the priests. Of the great number of such oracular shrines, only a few reached a national or international importance. Such famous oracles were, among others, the very ancient Oracle of Zeus, at Dodona, in Epirus, where answers were given by the rustling of the leaves of the sacred oaks; the Oracle of Zeus Ammon, in the oasis of Siwah, in Libya, noted for the visit of Alexander the Great, who was there hailed as the divine son of Ammon. The answers were determined by the swaying of the image of the god as it was carried in solemn procession on the shoulders of the priests. In the temples of Aesculapius the sick, who slept in a hall attached to the sanctuary, were either cured by a vision of the god during the night or received directions, which were interpreted to them by the attendants; of these the shrine of the Hieron of Epidaurus attained the greatest celebrity. Apollo, the special minister of Zeus in declaring the future was consulted at Branchidae, near Miletus; at Abae, in Phocis; at Claros, near Colophon; at Patara and at Argos, where the inspiration was in most cases communicated by drinking from the sacred spring or of the blood of the sacrifice. In most cases the responses were so ambiguous as to allow a thousand different interpretations.

The most famous of ancient oracles was that of the Pythian Apollo at Delphi, situated about eight miles north of an indentation in the northern shore of the Corinthian gulf, on the southern slope of Mount Parnassus. Diodorus of Sicily tells us that the Delphi oracle was discovered by goats, which acted so strangely before an opening in the ground as to attract the shepherd's attention and cause him to look into the hole. The fumes (probably of the hydrogen-sulphide) issuing from the cleft threw him into prophetic ecstasy. Persons who too often inhaled these prophetic fumes perished. Finally, a college of priests took possession of the place and instituted the oracle to a consultation. The Pythia, or priestess, who delivered the oracles was at first always a young maiden, but latterly always a woman not younger than 50. According to Plutarch, the duty had to prepare herself for the deliverance of the oracle by fasting, ablutions in the waters of the spring of Castalia and fumigations prepared of laurel and barley flour. She then entered the shrine, drank from the sacred water of the well of Cassotis, chewed leaves of the sacred laurel, and, holding in her hand a branch of the same, seated herself on the sacred tripod, or threelegged stool, placed upon the chasm in the ground, whence arose an intoxicating vapor. Her mutterings or ravings were handed over to a poet, employed for the purpose, who converted them into hexameter verses. Herodotus gives us the texts of a great number of these oracles. They are in most cases verses of Homer of such ambiguous sense as to be applicable to almost anything. In most cases the Pythia knew beforehand the question to be asked and had information about certain peculiarities, which explains the precision of some of the answers; otherwise she got out of the scrape by means of some vague phrase or pun. Thus, we are told by Suetonius, that Nero, after consulting the Pythia as to what he had to be most afraid of, received this answer: "Beware of 73 years." The king's fears were removed, as he thought that he was threatened by some danger at the age of 73. But when Galba, a man of 73, overthrew him, he realized the true sense of the oracle, which, without this coincidence, might have been given a different interpretation. The Christian emperors abolished the oracle, though they could not prevent the Christians of the first centuries from putting their faith in the Sibylline books, which were constantly increased by apocryphal verses. The belief of the Christians in the pagan prophecies is naively attested by the famous hymn, the Dies Irae, of the Catholic church. These superstitions were attacked at an early date. The Cynics and Epicureans, analyzing the versified responses of the Delphic oracle, found it strange that Apollo the god of harmony, should be guilty of so poor poetry. Demosthenes charged the Pythia with "philipizing," i. e., of always speaking in favor of Philip of Macedonia, by whom she was beloved, and Cicero could not understand how two augurs could look at each other without laughing. But this contempt of the enlightened minds discredited but little the oracles in the eyes of the people. Even the Christians continued to have faith in them, although they attributed them to the demons rather than the gods, and accused the pagan priests of charlatanism. But it does not matter whether the imposture of the oracles be due to priest or to devil, their falsehood remains the same. One thing is certain, if it was the devil who spoke in these oracles, he did not maintain his reputation of being the great intellect he is generally believed to be; and if it was Apollo in person, he proved himself a poor poet. Besides, it never required great intelligence to deceive people; only to enlighten them there can never be enough of it. And thus we find that after centuries of the diffusion of light the belief in divination is still prevalent in the most civilized countres.

Membership of Congress.

Editor Question Bureau:—Will you kindly publish the number of representatives now in congress, by states?—J. C. E., Pataskala, O.

There are 386 members of the lower house of the Fifty-ninth congress, 250 Republicans and 136 Democrats. Alabama has nine, Arkansas seven, California eight, Colorado three, Connecticut five, Delaware one, Florida three, Georgia eleven, Idaho one, Illinois twenty-five, Indiana thirteen, Iowa eleven, Kansas eight, Kentucky eleven, Louisiana seven, Maine four, Maryland six, Massachusetts fourteen, Michigan twelve, Minnesota nine, Mississippi eight, Missouri sixteen, Montana one, Nebraska six, Nevada one, New Hampshire two, New Jersey ten, New York thirty-seven, North Carolina ten, North Dakota two, Ohio twenty-one, Oregon two, Pennsylvania thirty-two, Rhode Island two, South Carolina seven, South Dakota two, Tennessee ten, Texas sixteen, Utah one, Vermont two, Virginia ten, Washington three, West Virginia five, Wisconsin eleven, Wyoming one. The territories of Arizona, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Hawaii and Porto Rico each have a delegate in congress.

The Fifteenth Amendment.

Editor Question Bureau:—Please tell how many states voted for and how many against the fifteenth amendment to the constitution.—A. L. H., Fayetteville, Ark.

The fifteenth amendment was ratified by 29 of the 37 states. Georgia at first rejected but afterward ratified it. New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Kentucky, California and Oregon rejected it, and Tennessee took no action. Ohio, which had at first rejected it, afterward ratified it, and New York rescinded her ratification.

The Witch Hazel.

Editor Question Bureau:—Does the witch-hazel grow in this country? If so, give a good description of it, stating the size, shape of leaves, etc.—G. D. W., Broksburg, Ind.

Witch-hazel is a tall shrub, which may be found in eastern American woodlands. It has a characteristic horizontal, straggling growth. It has been said of it that "its spray, so jointed and angular, is not to be mistaken for any other." Witch-hazel is one of the most difficult shrubs to eradicate from a clearing, as it has many diverging stems, so crooked and springy as to render axework unsuccessful. The bark is pale-gray. The leaves, somewhat resembling the ovate foliage of Corylus, are more or less oblique and undulate-edged, not at all handsome, but turning to a beautiful clear yellow in late autumn. No sooner have they fallen off, with the rest of the fresh foliage, in October or November, than the witch-hazels reclothe themselves with a luminous verdure of flimy, feathery yellow, which turns out for very long delayed blossoms —whether the earliest or latest flowers of the year botanists cannot decide. Individually, they are not conspicuous, having only four narrow, strap-shaped, golden petals, but are tufted on the twigs so as to gild the bushes. Meanhile, the fruits, little blunt, horned, woody capsules, that have been slowly ripening since the previous fall, begin to gape, and by elastic pressing and incurving their walls, shoot their stony-hard, bullet-shaped, polished seeds far and wide. Twigs of the witch-hazel, so abundant by the season of blooming, and remotely resembling the hazelnut in foliage, were chosen as the material for the forked divining rods, which, twisting in the hand of the treasure seeker, or well digger, pointed downward and inclosed the veins of subterranean water or gold, according to the belief of some.

The Northern Lights.

Editor Question Bureau:—I have been a reader of your paper only a few weeks, but I would like to ask a question. What are the northern lights, and what causes them? Also, where are they located?—J. W. M., Republic, O.

There is often observed near the northern horizon, usually a short time after sunset, a dark segment of a circle, surrounded by a brilliant arch of white or fiery light. This arch is often separated into several concentric arches, leaving the dark segment visible between them. In high latitudes columns of light, of the most variagated and beautiful colors, shoot up toward the zenith, and sometimes masses like sheaves of light are scattered in all directions, and a sort of fiery coronet is afterward formed about the zenith, by the meeting of all the columns of light. At this time the spectacle is magnificent. The light after th's grows fainter and more tranquil. This faintness and tranquility, however, are only temporary, for the phenomena are soon repeated, the undulations of the columns of light, the formation of the corona, and the like, though with a thousand variations. At length the motion wholly ceases, the light is collected about the northern horizon, the dark segment vanishes, and nothing is left but a strong brightness in the north, which gradually fades away. These brilliant appearances are attended in high latitudes, with loud noises described as resembling a hissng and crackling of fireworks. This appearance has received the name of northern light because, on account of our position on the earth, we see it chiefly in the north. A similar appearance was seen in the south, in 1773, by Cook's sailors, and later travelers have observed the same. These phenomena might therefore be called polar lights. Scientists are of different opinions as to the cause of the aurora. It is, however, satisfactorily explained to within the region of our atmosphere. One scientist ascribed it to the reflection of the sun and moon b ythe clouds of snow and needles of ice, which are constantly floating in the atmosphere of the frigid zone. Another supposed it to proceed from the atmosphere of the sun. Still another ascribed it to magnetism, and has remarkable influence on the needle has been generally observed. Franklin attributed it to electricity. Biot, who was sent to the Shetland Islands, in 1817, by the French Academy of Sciences, to determine the length of the pendulum vibrating seconds, had an opportunity, August 27 of the same year, of observing the aurora borealis in all its splendor at the island of nst. On this occasion he ascribed to the phenomenon a volcanic origin. The general opinion at present is that the aurora is an electric phenomenon; and there is manifestly an intimate connection between it and the magnetism of the earth as the magnetic needle is always greatly disturbed during a brilliant display of the aurora.

Labors of Hercules.

Editor Question Bureau: Please give some details concerning the twelve superhuman labors of Hercules.—C. P., Fellston, Mich.

When Jupiter saw that Juno had accomplished the disinheritance of Hercules, he made her promise that Hercules should become immortal on the completion of twelve great works for Eurystheus. There is some difference in the accounts of these labors, but the most common enumeration is the following:

The fight with the Nemean lion. The Valley of Nemea between Cleonae and Phlius was infested by a monstrous lion. Hercules blocked up one of the entrances to the den, entered it by the other, strangled the lion and brought the carcass to Eurystheus.

In the district of Lernae, near Argos, dwelt a huge hydra having nine heads, the middle one immortal. Hercules, having roused the hydra from its lair, cut off its heads, but in place of every head cut two new ones sprang up. With the assistance of his servant, Iolaus, he burned the mortal heads and buried the immortal one under a rock.

His next great labor was the capture of the Arcadian stag. This animad had golden horns and brazen feet, and was of surpriset a swiftness. Hercules was ordered to bring it alive to Mycenae. For a whole year he pursued it in vain. At length, weary of pursuing, the hero wounded it with an arrow, caught and carried it to Mycenae.

Hunt of the Erymanthian boar. This boar had descended from Mt. Erymanthus into Prophis, and Hercules was ordered to bring him alive to Eurystheus. He called the brute through the deep snow till, having tired him down, he caught him in a net.

The fifth great labor was the cleansing of the Augean stables. Augeas, king of Elis, had a herd of 3,000 oxen, whose stalls had not been cleansed for 30 years. Eurystheus commanded Hercules to clean them in one day. He accomplished it by turning in the rivers Alpheus and Peneus through the stables.

His next feat was the destruction of the Stymphalian birds, an innumerable swarm of voracious creatures with claws, wings and beaks of brass, that used their feathers as arrows and fed upon human flesh. They had taken refuge in a lake near Stymphalus, whence Hercules startled them with a rattle and killed them with his arrows as they attempted to fly away.

The capture of the Cretan bull came next on the program of remarkable things performed. This bull was a gift from Neptune to Minos, but as Minos neglected to sacrifice him, Neptune caused the bull to go mad and to create great havoc in Crete. Hercules was commanded to catch him and bring him to Mycenae. He did so, but then set the animal free, to the great terror of Greece.

Eurystheus sent Hercules to abduct the mares of Diomedes, a Thracian prince, who fed them with human flesh. Hercules had conducted them to the seacoast, when he was overtaken and attacked. He vanquished the Thracians, slew Diomedes, and cast his body to the mares, which became tame after eating the flesh of their master. Hercules embarked with them and brought them to Eurystheus.

The ninth triumph was the seizure of the girdle of Hippolyte, queen of the Amazons, which she had received from Mars. Hercules set sail from the Peloponnesus and landed at Themiscyra, where he was hospitably entertained by Hippolyte, who promised him the girdle. But the meliginty of Juno rousing the Amazons against him, he, deeming the queen a party to the conspiracy, slew her, possessed himself of the girdle, and arrived with it in safety at Mycenae.

Capture of the oxen of Geroyones, a monster who lived in the Island of Eyrthia, and who had a herd of red oxen which fed with those of Helios, and were guarded by the giant Eurytion and the two-headed dog Orthrus. Eurythia was in the ocean far to the west, and on his journey to it Hercules erected the pillars of Calpe and Abyla, hence called the pillars of Hercules. He killed Orthrus, Eurytion and Geryones, and, after overcoming the efforts of gods and men to deprive him of them, brought the oxen to Eurcystheus.

Hercules' eleventh labor was the getting of the golden apples of the Hesperides. These apples had been presented by Terra to Juno, by whom they had been instrusted to the keeping of the Hesperides and the dragon Ladon, in some remote region of the west. Hercules, with the aid of Atlas, obtained the apples.

The last of the twelve recorded feats of Hercules is the seizure of Cerberus, the dog that guarded the entrance to Hades. On arriving in Hades, Hercules asked permission of Pluto to take Cerberus, and the god yielded his assent, provided he could do so without having recourse to arms. Seizing Cerberus, Hercules bore him to the upper world, showed him to Eurystheus, and immediately carried the monster back to Hades.

Miscellaneous.

C. J. H., Port Austin, Mich.:—You should submit your questions to a lawyer. We cannot give legal advice in these columns.

H. O., Bluffton, O.:—Better go to the chairman of the central committee of your political party in the county where you reside. He will give you the information you want. Such a position as you want usually comes through political endorsement.

T. B. E., Bristol, Ind.:—Cannot give classified list of the wealthy men of the world. Would be impossible to obtain accurate information on that subject.

J. H. B., Cairo, Neb.:—The present editor of the Question Bureau has no recollection of any of Mrs. Ward's contributions to this paper, and is unable to find them.

C. S. M., Decatur, Ind.:—The speaker of the national house of representatives regulates, to a large extent, the debates. He represents the majority and is ususlly sustained in any course he sees fit to adopt. His influence over legislation is, therefore, manifestly great.

H. L. D., Birch Tree, Mo.:—Admission to a soldiers' home does not disfranchise a soldier.

C. M. G., Agee, Tenn.:—We cannot give a sketch of the life of Col. James H. Grant. You probably know more about him than we do.

M. M. D., Hardy, Neb.:—The Panama canal was purchased of France for $40,000,000.

E. S., Waupaca, Wis.:—Ask some lawyer for the information you want.

S. S., Jamesport, Mo.:—Cannot answer your question. Have been unable to find anything on the subject.

STORY OF THE CRANBERRY

The history of the cranberry can be told on a bit of parchment no larger than the fruit itself; but to judge its interest by its length would be like ranking the berry's importance by its weight. The cranberry, to begin with the day of its christening, was so named because its sponsors fancied that its bud resembled a crane; and, in truth, just before the bud expands into the perfect flower with stem, calyx and petals it resembles the neck, head and bill of that ungainly bird. Hence it was originally dubbed "craneberry," popularized into cranberry.

Like all families of importance in the agricultural race, the cranberry has an imposing genealogy. Its European cousin bears belonged to the clan of the Vaccinium oxycoccus; how long the American branch, or the macrocarpon, has been established here nobody knows, but it began to attract attention about one hundred years ago. Its acquaintance was first cultivated in the Cape Cod region of Massachusetts—New England has ever been ready to pay respect to ancestry.

It gradually worked its way out of obscurity until today the cranberry occupies a place of no mean industrial importance in the community; yearly it adds from one to two millions of dollars to the wealth of our nation, all the way from $3,000,000 to $4,000,000. The family is exceedingly prolific, 1,300,000 bushels being produced in the United States, leaving Europe far behind in quantity, as well as in its quality.

About 60 per cent of the family are born and reared in Massachusetts—for the greater part in the districts of Cape Cod, Plymouth and Barnstable. New Jersey, which devotes more of its territory to the cranberry than any other state in the Union, save Massachusetts, rolls up 24 per cent, and takes second place. Some years ago forest fires destroyed the marshes and dried up the streams of Wisconsin—a calamity which reduced the production of the Wisconsin berry to 11 per cent, and forced that state to assume third place; but Wisconsin is gradually recovering, and is striving for a position at the head. The rest of the cranberries hail from Connecticut, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New York, North Dakota, Oregon, Rhode Island, Washington and West Virginia. —Pearson's Magazine.

GUARD THE KITCHEN DOOR

Samples of baking powder or other articles of food left at the house or offered for sale by peddlers should be regarded with suspicion. There is no guarantee of their wholesomeness, while there is real danger that they may contain a dangerous compound. Many instances of poisoning from the use of such samples are recorded.

The only safe way is to consign all such samples immediately to the ash barrel, and to turn a deaf ear to the statements made by their venders. It is not worth while to trifle with life and health to the extent of testing every doubtful baking powder that comes along. Better to rely upon an old and reliable brand, like the Royal, which has, by a quarter of a century's constant use, proved its perfect wholesomeness and efficiency. The Royal Baking Powder is certified by the Government chemists as absolutely pure and perfect.

"BOSS."

The "boss," who has been routed in so many of the American elections, is a peculiarly American institution; but his name is simply the Dutch "baas," and Bartlett's Dictionary of Americanisms records that the proper pronunciation of the "o" in "boss" is like that of the "a" in "all." Originally in Dutch "baas" seems to have meant uncle, cousin, or kinsman in general. Then, because the master of a house might be regarded as the principal kinsman of its inmates, the word came to be used of him; from which to meantransition is simple. "De vrouw is de baas" is a Dutch domestic proverb that goes straight into American—"the wife is the boss." "Boss," curiously, has another slang meaning in Macedonia; on the prairies it means a buffalo—Latin "bos," no doubt.—London Chronicle.

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The Sunday School.

THE HEART OF CHRISTMAS.

The International Sunday School Lesson for December 24 is, "The Character of the Messiah." Isaiah ix:1-17. The Golden Text is: "Thou shalt call His name Jesus, for He shall save His people from their sins." Matthew 1:21.

BY WILLIAM T. ELLIS.

What with the happy bustle and planning and working and shopping which Christmas brings, there is real danger that the deepest significance of the day may be overlooked. Superficially, Christmas is the season of evergreens, of gaily decked trees, of Santa Claus, of feasting and of the giving and receiving of presents. But if that is all that it is, it is not enough.

The heart of Christmas—the meaning that vitalizes all the observances and perpetuates the festive spirit throughout the centuries—is a rude manger in an oriental khan, wherein lay the Babe who was the son of Mary and Son of God. In its very name, and in its very character, Christmas is the birthday anniversary of the Christ Child. They miss the message of this gladdest day of the year who have not eyes to discern in it the cooing, helpless, beautiful Babe, who in His complete humanness warms our hearts, and who in His divinity sets our spirits to soaring.

A Far-Foreseen Hope.

The Christmas that we know, and the better Christmas that is still before us, was the far-foreseen hope of the oppressed Jews. The cry "How long, O Lord!" that is today upon the lips of the Jews of Russia, is no new utterance for that race. Through the dark days of fear and oppression, when Assyria personified the terror with which Russia is now synonymous, they looked forward to the coming of a Messiah. Our present Christmas was then in the future to them.

Dim though the vision was, as foretold by Isaiah in the present passage, and by other prophets, it put a heart of hope into the people. There is saving and sustaining power in a great hope. No journey is too hard if the goal at the end be great enough. A worthy object of life, and a sufficient ground for endurance, was imparted by the expectation of a Coming One, who should break the Assyrian yoke, even as the yoke of the Midianites had been broken by Gideon.

As on the hottest August days, the east wind oftentimes comes sweeping through the city of Boston, driving away depression and discomfort and bringing the refreshing ocean ozone to weary workers, so the mighty upper currents of the Messianic hope surged through the life of the Jewish people, reviving their languishing spirits and reminding them of the pure air that they yet would breathe. No nation or individual is in extremis so long as it has a great hope to cherish.

A Light in a Dark Time.

These present days lend new significance to the character of the Messiah as a light. He was so pictured to the people that walked in darkness; he is so being realized in this Christmastide. A. D. 1905. Today, in a peculiar degree and manner, religion is standing for light. Truth and justice, handmaidens of the Messiah, are increasing their sway by the entrance of light into the dark places of the worlds of insurance, finance, railroads, politics, society. Things come upon day of revelations; and in consequence entertain a new respect for the saving power of sunlight. "Turn on the light!" is the slogan of all reform. The day of government by whispering is passing. Hidden things must be made manifest. Even the slums are being banished by the simple procedure of installing electric lights in alleys and courts.

The principle is a deep one, running down into the very nature of God. "In Him was light," and "in the light of the world." As the foregleams of the coming One brightened Judah's deep darkness, so in a larger measure the advent of Jesus is illuminating the dark places of the earth. Even the "dark continent" is becoming light because He is present and His gospel is being carried to its remotest recesses by His representatives. Slowly, almost imperceptibly at times, but nevertheless steadily, the spirit of Jesus is increasingly brightening the world.

The Christmas star shines more brilliantly than it did a year ago; the world is more in the mood to keep the infant King's birthday anniversary than it ever has been in the past. The widest observers, the clearest thinkers, the sanest prophets, have but one voice in declaring that the world is getting better year by year. The Son of Righteousness is arising, with healing in his beams. Despite the dire news from the realms of the czar, despite Turkey's bloody sway, despite ominous rumors from China, the paraphernalia of war is, to a greater degree every year, becoming, as Isaiah prophesied, material for a huge bonfire. The recently retired prime minister of Great Britain, in declaring at the banquet to the lord mayor of London, "a century ago, Pitt, standing where I now stand, prophesied war. Today I prophesy peace.

As a Little Child.

The Child typifies futurity. He is the ever fresh mystery. To him all things are possible. Parents, families, even kingdoms, center all their hope upon a child. A few short months ago the desire of all Russia was concentrated upon a male heir to the throne of the czar. That expectation was trifling as compared with the deep, longing hope of the Jews, whose hearts were fixed upon the prophet's words, not to be fulfilled until the first Christmas day, seven hundred years later, "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given, and the government shall be upon his shoulders."

Thus it comes to pass that any study of the character of the Messiah brings us face to face with the place of the child in life. This is his day, and Christmas is his festival. How bare would Christmas be without the little children! Of all persons to be pitied at this season, their lot is worst who must keep holiday without the accompaniment of children's laughter.

It is through every babe that we understand Christ, and through Christ that we understand the babe. Each is sanctified by the other.

Linked with this Old Testament prophecy of the Babe to come is the New Testament word of the Master himself, "Except ye turn, and become as little children, ye shall in no wise enter into the kingdom of heaven." The Christmas season should find the whole world on the common level of childlikeness; for only then can we rightly understand the day, and the Child who is its cause and center.

The Heaped-Up Names.

Newspapers use superlatives so often that they lose their force; not so Scripture. When it heaps up language in seeming extravagance there is added meaning and power. Behold the cumulative power of this description of the Messiah: "His name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."

The tremendous force of these appellations is not realized until each is broken up into its full individual meaning, as there is not space to do here. "Wonderful"—has He not been the amazement of twenty centuries, the one colossal world Figure, the marvel of the wise and the great, calling forth countless encomiums, such as "The character of Jesus forbids his possible classification with men."

"Counselor"—the race has been at His feet, in response to His invitation, "Come unto me . . . and learn of me." The best books, the finest characters, the noblest lives, have had as their inspiration and power the life of Him whose advent makes Christmas.

"Mighty God," "Everlasting Father"—staggering though the truth be, the Christian world hails Mary's Son as the image of the invisible God, the express image of His person, the revealer and embodier of the Godhead, even as he claimed, "The Father and I are one." "All power is given unto Me." "He that hath seen Me, hath seen the Father."

"Prince of Peace"—not without reason was a statue of Jesus erected on the border line between Chile and the Argentine Republic, as a perpetual memorial of peace. He has been the world's Pacificator. His birth was announced with hymns of peace; and His spirit is ushering in the inevitable day of universal peace among the nations.

An Increasing Reign.

Christmas suggests conquest. The simple fact of the world's wide observance of this day stimulates thought. It means that the whole earth is one in paying tribute to the long prophesied child of the manger, concerning whom Isaiah wrote, "Of the increase of his government and of peace there shall be no end."

How multiform and multitudinous are the agencies at work to fulfill that prophecy! Here it is little schildren with their Christmas carols; here a resolute spirit toiling amid the great city's tenements; here a mother ministering by word and example to young characters which accept her life as gospel; here it is the business men of a great city banded together for the promotion of righteousness; here it is thirty noble spirits leaping forward to take the place of the latest missionaries to earn a martyr's crown; here it is a consecrated preacher, here a humble saint simply living the love he bears to his Lord—who, save heaven's host, can record the vast company of great and small who are steadily pushing outward the frontiers of the kingdom of the Christmas King?

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My tailor doesn't care to sell me shoddy any more,
My sugar comes all sandless from the little country store,
The bone that's in my sirloin—well, it never was so small,
The steak I get is edible—there is no waste at all;
The ice I buy is weighed for me by an inspector man,
A government official, and in short the entire plan
Of living has been changed, and so my note of joy I bring,
Since Uncle Sam has gone to supervising everything.

Oh, joy! I've sent my dairyman to 30 days in jail!
A federal inspector found some water in his pail!
A man who sold me butter with a taint of onions in
Will shortly be dispatched at the official guillotine.
The coal man—hardened sinner—knows that rumors now are rife
He'll soon be in a prison for the balance of his life,
And so I say, my turn has come—the bells of joy may ring,
Since Uncle Sam has gone to supervising everything.

My cook, who swore to quit me or to have a raise in pay,
I'll have in jail for blackmail ere the closing of the day.
My barber cut me yesterday—I'll have him up before
A federal inspector ere the passing day is o'er.
They've just returned life sentence at hard labor, so I hear,

TOLEDO BLADE.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1905.

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TOLEDO BLADE CO.....Publishers
ROBINSON LOCKE.....Editor

THE BLADE is a weekly newspaper for intelligent American citizens. It aims to cover, each week, all news topics of real interest to all wideawake and thinking men. Its editorial page is one of the strongest and most thoughtful in the United States. Its special departments are carefully edited, and the whole paper is intended for the homes of the free American people.

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CURRENT COMMENT

The Russian Bear is having his fill of the strenuous life.

It now turns out that it wasn't the Sultan of Sulu who proposed to Miss Roosevelt.

The beef trust has protested its innocence so long that it must begin to feel that it is really pure.

We're glad Nick is going to hurry up matters before some mighty potentate kidnaps the lovely Alice.

If Count Witte reads the London news reports he must feel greatly discouraged over his prospects of success.

Senator Foraker appears to be paying no attention to the "stop, look and listen" sign at the railroad rate crossing.

It is not likely that Edward H. Harriman will insist on further detail with reference to the Ryan interview.

Senator Lamb will show the people of Ohio how it is possible for a man who is in position to be a boss, not to be one.

Perhaps the surest way to get back to the old football game is to so amend the rules as to permit great barbarities.

All a man has to do to feel like a defeated candidate the day after election is to join in the crusade against Santa Claus.

Emperor William hastens to deny that he has any serious intentions on Brazil. His Panther was merely indulging in a frolic.

She's a poor cook who disdains her own broth. Boston people consumed over six million dollars' worth of baked beans last year.

Some of the Russian noblemen must envy their brethren who were removed from life's activities before the real struggle began.

If Tom Lawson is as nearly broke as reported, the promised distribution of his wealth must have taken place before he was ready for it.

Some people read the President's message to find out what he has to say, and others go through it to see how many infinitives he split.

The word "graft" is to have a place in the dictionaries, but the people will not have to buy a new dictionary to understand what it means.

Senator Lodge's tariff scheme is called the "maximum" bill. In his hurry to overtake John Sharp Williams, he overlooked the minimum end of it.

Mr. John Sharp Williams' announcement that the country is tired of the Republican party, will come as a surprise to a man named Alton B. Parker.

Congressman Galloway is the tallest man in congress. Nevertheless he will have to have some other claim to recognition if he wants Speaker Cannon to see him.

For some reason little is heard of John D. Rockefeller along about Christmas, notwithstanding he is the best equipped man in the country for the role of Santa Claus.

Nobody can blame the Sultan of Turkey for being slow in making his promises. It sometimes takes time for him to find out just what the powers want him to promise.

As time grows apace it begins to look as if about all Mr. Hearst will get out of the New York mayoralty election is a lot of expensive advertising that he doesn't need.

Wonder how many United States senators felt comfortable when the customary action on the death of a member was omitted in the case of Senator Mitchell?

It is proper to remark at this stage of the proceedings that Autumn has been encoraching on Winter's territory, a trespass damages for which Winter may look to Spring.

Do not complain if your twenty-dollar bills show signs of having been frequently handled. The treasury department is out with the announcement that new money is scarce.

The people of the Isle of Pines declare that they still have hope. If they are wise, however, they will not neglect any of their personal affairs to indulge in any great expectations.

Kansas claims to be losing $22,000,000 a year to the Standard Oil company. Perhaps the Standard has simply been going on the theory that Kansas is a health resort for octopi.

Ex-Queen Lil wants the American government to give her $10,000,000. It is believed that she has made a mistake in not writing to Santa Claus instead of addressing herself to Uncle Sam.

Mr. Nick Longworth's engagement to the President's daughter has naturally directed attention to the fact that there is "no hair on the top of his head in the place where the hair ought to be."

Dick Yates is going to be a candidate for United States senator against Uncle Shelby Cullom. This is a splendid opportunity for persons who want to be political prophets to predict what will happen to Yates.

Mr. Harriman declares that he owns Mr. Odell, but he does not go to the humiliating extent of announcing he intends making a special discount sale and offering the former governor as a bargain-counter attraction.

NICHOLAS FORCES THE ISSUE

It looks as if Russia were rapidly approaching the end of the chapter marking the division between agitation and revolution. The determination of the government to put on the official screws and make a final desperate stand to preserve itself hastens the crisis and must precipitate a bloody conflict. The revolutionists have burned their bridges behind them and there is nothing for them to do but fight. The maintenance of present conditions for any length of time would be intolerable. The harrying tactics of the revolutionists are weakening the moral and financial force of the czar and the truth has been forced upon him that he must fight or abdicate.

If the army does not crumble in his hands, if any considerable part of it remains steadfast, the carnage must be frightful to contemplate. The imperial ukase of yesterday clothing the governors of the various provinces where telegraph communication is cut off, with practically the powers of dictators, means armed resistance to every movement of the populace that threatens the stability of the government.

Much as the situation is to be deplored, if conflict there must be, the sooner it is precipitated the better. No doubt the czar hoped to avert a crisis by making conciliation, but it has dawned on him that the enemies of the government will be satisfied with nothing short of its annihilation. Nicholas saw that the hostile forces were gradually dissipating his strength and that further procrastination might make his case hopeless.

The outcome must depend on the decision of the middle classes. If they are satisfied that Nicholas is sincere in his promise of reforms and wont give himself over to the reactionaries, once he has again made his position secure, very likely they will rally to his support as prefering a constituional monarchy to a long period of anarchy and revolution. Indeed with the many groups and diversities of opinions existing among the revolutionists, it is a question of they would be able to hold the empire together and patriotism is not all lost to the Russians. But for that feeling which is prevalent among the thinking classes, the overthrow of the Romanoff dynasty would be speedily accomplished.

OUR MONGOLIAN TEACHER.

The efforts of the National Civic Association to deny that the Chinese boycott has any reference to our application of the exclusion act will not deceive anyone who has followed the course of the boycott. In fact, American merchants acknowledged as much when they accepted the conditions laid down by the Chinese guilds as essential to the raising of the boycott. These conditions refer wholly to the Chinese exclusion act and are not unreasonable in the opinion of those who have deprecated our unjust discrimination against an industrious people.

The guilds demand that we accord to Chinese visitors and students the same degree of consideration that we accord visitors of other nationalities and that no distinction be made between residents of Chinese birth and residents of the most favored nations. In brief, China insists that we stop persecuting a Chinaman simply because he is one. It is a disgrace to this nation that China has found it necessary to adopt retaliatory measures in order to secure a measure of justice for her people.

It is not reasonable to suppose that we could hold our own in one of the greatest markets of the world, with that outrageous exclusion act staring China in the face. Apparently we have been blind to the situation. We have been operating merely on the theory that the Chinaman lacked sense and that we could make him swallow any old dope we chose to administer. If the time was when this condition existed, it no longer exists, and we shall be fortunate if our oversight has not cost us a pretty penny. The hostility that our treatment of the Chinaman has engendered in that country will not be dispelled in a moment, even though we do confess error and promise to be decent in the future. We have perpetrated many wrongs in the name of that exclusion act and it should be one of our first duties to remedy them as far as lies within our power.

OVERLOOKED SOMETHING.

It must be humiliating to the officials of the three big insurance companies to learn that there are subtleties of finance which escaped them. While they were adepts in juggling the funds that came into their possession, their methods of swelling these funds were commonplace beside the methods employed by the Mutual Reserve. According to the testimony given before the investigating committee, that company issued a policy which is entitled to the palm as a revenue producer.

There was no escape for the policyholder after he was once trapped except to quit and charge his premiums to profit and loss. The company reserved that right to increase the premiums, and judging from the reports on some policies, it exercised that right with a free hand. The man who took out a policy for $1,000 at an annual premium of $40, say, might find, after the first year, that he was assessed a great deal more. A clause in the policy also permitted the company to make charges against it, reducing its face value, so that the holder never knew just where he was at. He didn't know what his next years' premium would be, nor did he know how much insurance he was carrying. In some instances the rate thus imposed was beyond all reason. It was as if the company looked upon the man who sought insurance as legitimate prey and sought to extract every dollar possible.

Whether this species of robbery has more to commend it than the deferred dividend plan is open to question, but if the two systems were applied to an equal number of policyholders, the former would back the latter off the financial boards.

THE SENATE SCOLDS.

The proceedings in congress relative to the Panama canal emergency appropriation were undignified and unpatriotic. Assuming the President had erred in some of his administrative methods, there was no occasion for making a world spectacle of it. The Spooner bill practically gave the President jurisdiction over the project and he entered heartily into the details of it. His first appointments were unfortunate and unsatisfactory, but he lost no time, after discovering the fact, before applying a remedy.

Naturally the first expenditures in an enterprise of the kind must seem extravagant, because there are many unlooked for contingencies. Probably with the knowledge now at hand, Chairman Shonts could accomplish that which has been accomplished for much less money.

But the fact is that the senate debated the question in a fault-finding spirit for hours and then approved the appropriation. Senators criticized the appointment of Bishop, the press agent, but it developed in the debate that the commission had already decided that he was an expensive luxury and would be retired. One senator scored the President for paying Shonts too big a salary, although it is not likely that a man in the country would assume the responsibilities for less. Then efforts were made to show that the commission paid too much for its ships because it could have secured them at junk prices abroad. And so on ad nauseam.

But after having exhausted many hours of the government's time in scoring the President, these solons not only approved the appropriation, but confirmed the appointments of the commissioners.

There is a growing impression in the country that the United States senate is frittering time away in senseless discussions under a carefully arranged program to delay action on important legislation, and its treatment of the Panama canal appropriation tends to strengthen that impression.

BILL BRYAN IN JAPAN.

William Jennings Bryan is said to be making a great hit in Japan as an orator. There it doesn't matter so much what he says as how he says it, and it must be confessed that the Great Commoner is some pumpkins on delivery. There is ground for hope that the Japanese will become so attached to him as to persuade him to stay in their midst, conferring on him the mark of High Minister of Eloquence or some other equally appropriate title. They might even permit him to take the sacred chair from which to draw inspiration in breathing spells.

Nebraska has demonstrated her ability to get along very well without her great statesman and as for the nation it seems to be prospering in spite of the absence of the "Great One." We all wish him well and since he has made himself solid with the mikado, why would it not be a happy outcome if he should chance to take up a permanent residence in the Land of Flowers. People in this country have discredited his Divine Ratio, but he can work it to his heart's content on the Japanese because they don't know anything about it. Thus Mr. Bryan finds a congenial field where he can exploit his peculiar theories on finance without interruption, exercise his power of oratory to the limit and always be assured of popular acclaim.

It is a pity to waste so much talent on benighted America.

IMPOTENT CIVILIZATION.

We must expect brutality of the worst kind in the transition that is taking place in Russia. The greatest brute on earth is man when aroused to anger or imbued with the notion that he has been mistreated and oppressed. There are more brutes of this type in Russia today than in America when it was peopled with savages. The horrible assassination of Sergius and other members of the bureaucracy was the work of revolutionists bent on overturning the existing order. The cruelties of the Cossacks and the inhuman order of General Maxinovitch to kill at every opportunity, is the exemplification of the Old Testament doctrine: "An eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth."

Wearied of his failure to secure pacification through conciliatory measures, the czar has yielded to the importunities of the bureaucrats and is attempting to put down the uprising by force, by meeting butchery with butchery.

And the Christian world, held back by a false sentiment that permits every nation to work out its own salvation or sink into perdition, must look on powerless to check the torrent of blood that is pouring from the Russian heart. If this is civilization, how barbarous! But say the word, and the Christian nations of Europe could put a stop to the awful carnage and preserve the integrity of a magnificent country. If a man contemplates suicide, we presume he has forfeited his liberty and restrain him until assured that he will no longer harm himself. Why shouldn't Christian civilization take Russia in hand and save her from herself? Why is she not even more in need of a protectorate than a nation that has wasted her resources and is floundering hopelessly in debt?

THE PANTHER INCIDENT.

Itajahy is a small town of a few thousand inhabitants situated in the state of Santa Catherina, Brazil. On November 27 the German gunboat Panther landed a force of marines and compelled a hotel keeper to give into their custody a young German, the complaint being that he had evaded military service. The government of Brazil, on being informed of the occurrence, promptly dispatched three cruisers to keep an eye on the Panther, and at the same time made a formal demand on Germany to disavow the act of the Panther and to order the liberation of the prisoner.

This affair, bearing similarity to the unwarrantable action of British vessels in detaining and searching American merchantmen for British sailors, and which ultimately led to the war of 1812, is stirring diplomatic circles to its very depths. It may develop that the Panther was exceeding instructions, in which event Germany will no doubt make the amende honorable. But the Pall Mall Gazette takes a more serious view of the incident. It professes to see in the act of the Panther's commander a studied effort to pick a quarrel with Brazil, for the purpose of extending Germany's sphere of influence in South America.

As in all such cases the first question asked is what attitude will the United States assume in case war shall be declared? Whenever there is any difficulty between a European nation and a country on this continent it pleases foreigners to declare that the Monroe doctrine is to be put to a practical test. So in this instance, it is the Monroe Doctrine that is to be tried, and all foreign eyes are glued on President Roosevelt to see what he will do in the premises. Obviously nothing until development make it patent that he must. The Monroe Doctrine does not necessarily make us the active ally of every American country that gets into trouble. Brazil contends that a very important principle of international law has been violated, and she will first give Germany a chance to apologize. In the event of refusal, Brazil may feel that national honor compels her to resent the insult, and that would mean war. The United States would not enter into the game at this stage unless there was something in Germany's claim to make it manifest that she was engaged in a campaign of conquest, in which case, this country would very promptly order her to keep hands off. If she then persisted, we would probably put on the clamps in the name of the Monroe Doctrine.

But until Germany has been heard from to the contrary, we are safe in assuming that some individual has made a serious blunder, and one the responsibility for which Germany will speedily disavow. If the facts reported as such from Brazil are verified, it would seem that Germany has no other recourse, unless, indeed, she is determined to disturb the world's peace, and that is so contrary to the expressed policy of William as to be incredible.

KOREA AND JAPAN.

The relations between Korea and Japan, if one can rely on information coming from Korea, is of such a nature as to cause grave concern. This country has a treaty with Korea by the terms of which we agree to use our good offices whenever that country is unjustly oppressed. The Koreans charge Japan with harshness in dealing with their government, having virtually taken possession of the country by force. They concede the paramountcy of Japan and say they do not object to a protectorate, but they do not want their officials treated as prisoners.

What action this government will take in the premises is conjectural. It may be necessary to send a note of inquiry to Japan, and, if conditions warrant, we may even be compelled to protest against the oppressive acts complained of. Surely if the stories depicted of conditions in Koera dovetail with facts, we cannot ignore the matter without publishing to the world that our guarantees are guarantees of form merely and are not to be taken seriously.

But it is well to get Japan's side of the story before working ourselves into a fuss over the affair. It scarcely seems credible that the Japanese, who are assuredly cognizant of the existing treaty, would deliberately invite the protest of this government. Full information may relieve what on the surface appears to be a real embarrassment.

RYAN'S PHILANTHROPY.

A careful perusal of Thomas Ryan's testimony touching on his interviews with E. H. Harriman in regard to the purchase of the Equitable leads the reader to wonder why the witness was so backward about giving it. Why did he refuse to answer the questions until District Attorney Jerome advised him that it would be the wise course to pursue?

For surely nothing developed in the withheld testimony except that which one might naturally expect in a deal between two shrewd business men. Harriman heard that Ryan was about to purchase Hyde's stock, and wanted to be let in on the deal. He requested, then pressed, and finally threatened to use all his influence against Ryan, but the latter stubbornly refused Harriman's request. Witness denied that Harriman had threatened legislative action against the company, but inferred that should there be such action, his influence would be considerable.

The most interesting phase of Mr. Ryan's testimony is his explanation of why he bought the Hyde stock. Inasmuch as he paid nearly $5,000 a share for the 502 shares which have a par value of $50,200, and further, this stock is entitled under the law to dividends of only 7 per cent., the public mind was curious to learn the reason for this peculiar investment. The stock in Jimmy Hyde's possession and under the old regime was well worth the money, for Hyde derived a very large sum in his various official capacities. But by the very nature of the trusteeship imposed by Mr. Ryan, the stock was reduced to its actual earning capacity. Mr. Ryan, however, frankly confesses that he took the step to protect the business world. He feared a panic might result if some means were not taken to prevent the company being forced into a receivership, and he sacrificed $2,500,000 of his hard earned money in a purely philanthropic spirit. If Mr. Ryan can convince the people of the sincerity of his motives, he has certainly earned a niche in the temple of the world's great altruists.

THE CANAL APPROPRIATION.

Congress will appropriate $11,000,000 for the immediate use of the Panama canal commission to meet outstanding obligations and permit the prosecution of the work for another month, but hereafter no expenditures shall be made except on authority of the national legislature. The commission asked for $16,500,000, but the house cut out $5,500,000 and the senate committee has agreed to the appropriation as reduced.

This action lodges the control of the work with congress. While the President and his commission will have charge of the practical construction it is obvious that their hands are tied and that progress must necessarily be slow. Every time an appropriation is asked for, opponents of the canal will be afforded an opportunity to obstruct and delay. If congress purposes to scrutinize every item of proposed expenditure before the money is forthcoming, it is apparent that the canal is a long way from consummation.

The President has been unfortunate in his selection of men to inaugurate this great undertaking. There has been enough of extravagance to give congress justifiable reason for its action, and enough of scandal to create suspicion that all is not as it should be. Differences of professional opinion as to the nature of the canal and dissensions among those engaged in the preliminary work have proved obstacles in the path, and yet no enterprise of this magnitude can be finished in a day. Nor must it be forgotten that great interests are opposing the project. Mr. Bishop, the press agent whose $10,000 salary has come in for a share of criticism, enumerates among these interests those who prefer the Nicaragua or the Darien route and the transcontinental lines. They are active aggressive interests that can be relied upon to obstruct the progress of the work on all occasions.

In a way the new situation relieves the President of a great responsibility, although it is one he is evidently willing and eager to assume. The canal is a hobby with him. He took great pains in selecting the men to begin the work and at the outset emphasized the necessity for avoiding any semblance of scandal. No one questions his patriotic attitude with reference to the canal, and yet with all his caution he has been unable to ward off severe strictures on the methods employed.

MISJUDGED FINANCIERS.

We have it from Thomas F. Ryan that he purchased Hyde's Equitable stock to save the company and to save the country from a financial crisis. Harriman learned of Ryan's intentions and sought an interview. He wanted to be in on the deal. He wasn't sure of Ryan and suspected the latter's motives. He concluded to put Ryan to the supreme test. So he requested that he be given a share in the transaction and be permitted to name two of the trustees. Ryan refused and thereupon Harriman, assured that the former's motives were impure, made a threat that he would throw all his influence against Ryan.

This in substance is the result of the committee's investigation into the Ryan-Harriman interviews. It is an interesting side light as affording a glimpse of the interior to the world of high finance, but it has no real value in the voyage of discovery on which th committee has embarked. The public will draw its own conclusions as to the disinterestedness of these parties. If either Ryan or Harriman was inspired by patriotic motives in their efforts to get control of the Equitable, it would seem that they have been harshly misrepresented. Neither has been credited with possessing any considerable degree of altruism in their mental equipment.

A BLACK EYE FOR HEARST.

The cause of municipal ownership in New York received a severe setback when the court of appeals decided that it could not order a recount of the ballots. The only course now open to Hearst is to proceed by quo warranto to force the opening of the ballot boxes after Mayor McClellan has taken the oath of office.

Enough has developed in the investigation to give color to the charge that grave frauds were perpetrated at the recent election, and it was hoped that the question could be determined prior to the expiration of McClellan's present term.

There is no doubt that many people voted for Hearst under the impression that his election was impossible and because they desired to rebuke Tammany. But it is no longer a question of what should be, but of what actually transpired and that was the purpose of Mr. Hearst in demanding a recount. While the business interests of the city would generally deplore the success of Hearst, all admit that a greater calamity would be the seating of McClellan through the corruption of the ballot box.

Attorneys for Hearst still insist that the truth must come out and that their client will get his dues, but the consensus of opinion is largely against this. McClellan has the whip hand now and one effect of this was reflected in the sharp advance of the local corporation stock market.

THE FRANKING ABUSE.

The deficit in the postoffice department for the last fiscal year was $14,572,584.13.

The amount of free mail matter handled equalled 12.58 per cent of the whole, causing a loss to the government in revenue of approximately $20,000,000. Unquestionably a portion of this free mail is a legitimate charge on the government consisting of reports of the various departments designed to inform the people on what is being done for their interest.

But a large percentage of this franking business should be abolished. Thousands of tons of stuff are distributed by congressmen to their constituents purely for political purposes, and in that dissemination Uncle Sam should have no hand. The use of the franking privilege has developed into a scandalous abuse, and the government should take steps to stop it. If a congressman has a campaign before him, let him pay postage on the literature which he desires to place before his people and not impose on the postoffice department.

Postmaster General Cortelyou advises that every department be charged with the free mail matter which emanates from it, thereby imposing on the respective heads necessity for careful scrutiny and instituting an economy which, under the present system, cannot be maintained.

It is obvious that the restriction of the franking privilege to its legitimate domain will wipe out the deficit, if indeed it doesn't permit of a surplus in the finances of the postoffice department. Moreover, the reform will meet popular approval as tending to decrease the mass of rubbish that is piled up in nearly every American home as a monument to the indefatigable industry of our representatives in congress.

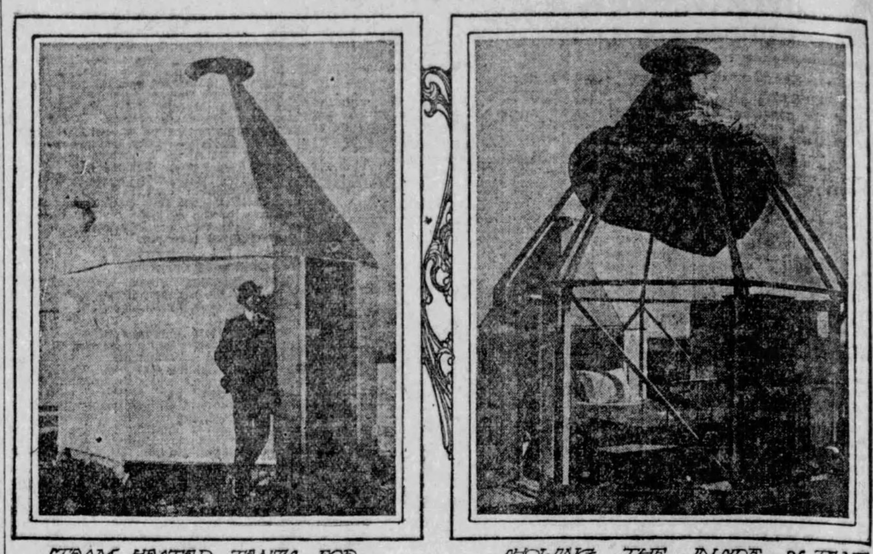
FIGHT SHY OF KENTUCKY.

Immigration Commissioner Sargent calls attention in his annual report to the fact that a very large per cent of foreigners settle in four or five states already thickly populated and seem averse to making a home in the southern or western states which offer just now the most flattering alurements. Kentucky is one of the most greatly shunned states of the south, only 628 out of a total of 1,626,021 immigrants electing to locate in the Blue Grass state. No doubt this is in a measure due to the unpleasant advertising Kentucky has received by reason of her many feuds and vendettas. The average immigrant, if he is not a peaceful soul by nature, comes over here to escape the strenuous life which he may have lived in the old country. He transplants himself here to seek a home, not a quarrel, and if he is at all well informed, he fights shy of a state where every man is supposed to carry a bottle of bourbon and at least one bowie in his bootleg.

That's what reputation will do for a community, and it is a matter Colonel Watterson will do well to look into. If citizens of Breathitt county are retarding the growth of the commonwealth, they should be promptly called to account. If they cannot behave themselves, let them be deported and make room for the sturdy foreigner who has no taste for blood. The transformation might rob Kentucky of her picturesqueness and some of her citizens of their regular allowance of excitement, but in the end it would redound to her credit. Editor Watterson is thus afforded an opportunity of beginning a real reform and of gaining for himself everlasting renown. What greater reward does the colonel seek than to be known as "The Reclaimer of the Bloody Ground?"

Chauncey Depew is no longer called a "peach." We fear he is very much Dead Sea fruit

Improved Tents for Housing Consumption Sufferers.



STEAM HEATED TENTS FOR TUBERCULOSIS PATIENTS

SHOWING THE INSIDE of TENT AND FRAME WORK

Minneapolis, Minn., Dec. 16.—Never before in the history of America has more attention been given than now to that dread disease, consumption. Never has the "tent treatment" been so widely used. This "tent treatment" is being given a thorough test in several places, notably in Colorado, where the climatic conditions are such that life out of doors is possible for most of the year.

The tents most in use are of the Nordach pattern so called after a camp of that name, where consumptives have been treated with marked success. In the Union Printers' Home, of Colorado, where ten of these tents are in use, fully 50 per cent of the patients have recovered health.

The tents are octagonal in shape, as this form has proved the best to resist wind. They are built with a framework as substantial as that of a house, the intersections reinforced with castings, and every part so firmly anchored that they will withstand a wind of 100 miles an hour. They are covered with the best double filled army canvas, which is not affected by snow or rain.

It is the arrangement of the ventilation that the chief virtue in these tents lies, for this is the all important factor in the outdoor treatment for tuberculosis. The tents have hardwood floors, built a few feet from the ground. Four trap doors, about a foot wide and four feet in length, are at the corners of the floor, and these can be closed or opened at pleasure, a wire screen forming a protection against bugs and insects. Another ventilator is in the peek of the roof. This is managed by a cord.

The tents are attractively furnished with a white iron bedstead, rugs, chairs and a built-in closet, bureau and washstand. Those in Colorado Springs, which are considered models of their kind, are the only steam heated tents in the world. The first cost of the installation of this heating apparatus is expensive, but after the pipes are laid, the tents can be built for a little more than $100 each.

The diet of tuberculosis patients is raw eggs, milk and roast and boiled meats. Other foods are added as the appetite increases and there is better circulation of blood. In all cases where the outdoor treatment is tried, there is no neglect of sanitary precaution, and care is exercised as much as if the patient were in a house or hospital. Sputum cups are used day and night and all clothing is disinfected.

From Plowboy to Senate

Remarkable Career of the "Baby" Member of the Upper Branch of Congress.

A plowboy at ten.

A student of an Iowa college at seventeen.

A graduate at twenty.

A school teacher, a lawyer, and a member of the house at thirty.

A United States senator at thirty-seven.

This is the remarkable record of Elmer Jacob Burkett, who in January of this year was elected for a six-year term, commencing March 4, 1905, to the upper branch of the nation's legislature.

To be a United States senator is a distinction worth the ambition of any American citizen. To be the "baby" member of that great legislative body is a rarer distinction, says the Washington Post.

Out in Nebraska there have been in the past a number of long-drawn-out senatorial deadlocks. The people were not only dissatisfied with conditions, but they were determined to stop it. They decided not only to interfere, but to direct the action of the legislature.

The newspapers took up the matter very energetically, and the plan was suggested of having a state convention nominate a candidate for United States senator, and instruct their legislative nominees to vote for him when the legislature met. Of course, there was opposition to the plan in certain quarters, for it materially interfered with the desires of the "bosses" who had controlled Nebraska politics for many years, and Burkett was not exactly to their liking.

UNITED STATES SENATOR BURKETT.

The opposition, however, did not develop any great amount of strength, and when the test vote was made in the Republican state convention of May, 1904, whether that convention should place before the people a nominee for United States senator to succeed Charles H. Dietrich, the opponents of the scheme were in a hopeless minority, having scarcely one-fourth of the votes of the convention.

Mr. Burkett was unanimously declared the choice of the Republicans of the state for senator, and, of course, Republican nominees for the legislature were pledged to carry out the action of the state convention.

William Jennings Bryan was the universally accepted candidate of the opposition, consisting of the Democrats, Populists and Free Silver Republicans. The fight was thus narrowed down to one between Mr. Burkett and Mr. Bryan for control of the legislature.

Which one would be senator was dependent upon the political complexion of that body. The campaign, extending over a period of about five months, was exceedingly virile, and there was plenty of uncertainty to make it interesting, and at times almost bitter.

Mr. Burkett, like his distinguished opponent, is of even temperament, slow to anger and plenteous in that brand of good nature that never wears off; and so whatever may have disturbed others, it can be said that nothing harsh or bitter ever passed between them personally.

Roosevelt's great popularity made the state surely Republican, so far as the electoral ticket was concerned, but Mr. Bryan's popularity and his force as a campaigner made the outcome as to the complexion of the legislature one of doubt and uncertainty. Then, too, there were local conditions that were not advantageous to the Republicans.

The last preceding legislature had been Republican, and it had passed a new revenue law. The first assessment had been made under it, and the taxes were due and payable during the progress of this campaign. Taxes were increased, and this created intense dissatisfaction. The Republican party was charged with these increased taxes and the accompanying extravagance growing out of the larger assessments.

These were the conditions confronting Mr. Burkett when the campaign of 1904 opened. Mr. Bryan, shrewd and resourceful as he is, took advantage of every mistake of the Republicans, and he went into the campaign to elect a Democratic legislature. He strove mightily; he held meetings in almost every district; he completely covered the state with a special train, and made

Mr. Burkett was unanimously declared the choice of the Republicans of the state for senator, and, of course, Republican nominees for the legislature were pledged to carry out the action of the state convention.

William Jennings Bryan was the universally accepted candidate of the opposition, consisting of the Democrats, Populists and Free Silver Republicans. The fight was thus narrowed down to one between Mr. Burkett and Mr. Bryan for control of the legislature.

Which one would be senator was dependent upon the political complexion of that body. The campaign, extending over a period of about five months, was exceedingly virile, and there was plenty of uncertainty to make it interesting, and at times almost bitter.

Mr. Burkett, like his distinguished opponent, is of even temperament, slow to anger and plenteous in that brand of good nature that never wears off; and so whatever may have disturbed others, it can be said that nothing harsh or bitter ever passed between them personally.

Roosevelt's great popularity made the state surely Republican, so far as the electoral ticket was concerned, but Mr. Bryan's popularity and his force as a campaigner made the outcome as to the complexion of the legislature one of doubt and uncertainty. Then, too, there were local conditions that were not advantageous to the Republicans.

The last preceding legislature had been Republican, and it had passed a new revenue law. The first assessment had been made under it, and the taxes were due and payable during the progress of this campaign. Taxes were increased, and this created intense dissatisfaction. The Republican party was charged with these increased taxes and the accompanying extravagance growing out of the larger assessments.

These were the conditions confronting Mr. Burkett when the campaign of 1904 opened. Mr. Bryan, shrewd and resourceful as he is, took advantage of every mistake of the Republicans, and he went into the campaign to elect a Democratic legislature. He strove mightily; he held meetings in almost every district; he completely covered the state with a special train, and made

Current Events.

George W. Perkins resigns as vice president of the New York Life.

Miss Roosevelt's bridal trip to Europe will be made continuous by royalty.

Ex-Governor Yates completes plans for his campaign for the United States senatorship.

H. H. Rogers, of the Standard Oil company, plans to erect a home for children to cost $300,000.

Eight indictments are returned by the federal grand jury investigating rebate cases at Philadelphia.

Rumors in Berlin that kaiser seeks to place his son, Prince Eltel Frederick, on the throne of Brunswick duchy.

Illinois supreme court sets Feb. 23 as the date on which Johann Hoch, bigamist and wife murderer, must hang.

Millionaire Charles F. Pfister, is vindicated by Milwaukee court, which frees him from charge of embezzlement.

New York broker loses $300,000 by the rise in Amalgamated in the stock market and becomes violently insane.

Announcement is made in New York that the Trunk Line association railways will abolish all forms of free transportation after Jan. 1.

Friends of Governor La Follette ridicule the report that he will resign as United States senator and seek reelection as governor.

New York lawyer declares that Robert B. Ballantine, the wealthy New Jersey brewer, was driven to suicide by blackmailers.

W. S. Humphrey, of Saginaw, Mich., tells house committee that reduction of the Philippine tariff would mean ruin to the American sugar industry.

Secretary Taft, testifying before the senate appropriations committee, says Chief Engineer Wallace practically wasted his time while on the isthmus.

Fourteen indictments are returned by the federal grand jury at Kansas City against ackers, railroads, shippers and others, growing out of rebate charges.

Hearst forces plan to appeal to the legislature not only to pass a law to recount the ballots, but to order a searching investigation into the last election in New York city.

Senator Tillman, in speech in congress, denounces President Roosevelt for trickery in Santo Domingo and charges management of Panama canal with extravagance and nonattention to business.

Wisconsin assembly, by a vote of 43 to 39, defeats motion to reconsider its vote against the amendment to the primary election law, known as the "Mary Ann" bill.

Wisconsin seeks to collect an inheritance tax from the Pabst estate on $4,000,000 of brewery stock distributed among the children before the father's death.

President Corey, of the United States Steel corporation, threatens to reveal secrets of a sensational dinner attended by his enemies if they press him further on the matter of his divorce.

Caught in a whirling belt driven by a 2,000 horsepower engine, Walter Cavanaugh, the giant former center rush of the University of Chicago football team, saves his life by sheer strength.

Secretary Bonaparte, following report of latest hazing at the naval academy, declares that guilty midshipmen will be dismissed and that drastic action will be taken to stamp out the practice.

Goodyear Tire & Rubber company is sued for $150,000 damages in New York for refusing to supply goods to the New York-Broadway Rubber Tire company because it declined to advance prices.

W. Bourke Cochran, in a speech before the house of representatives, flays the officials of the big insurance companies and says he is appalled that their confessions have not landed them behind the bars. He declares it is impossible to put the possessor of $10,000,000 in jail.

THE "AFTERWARDS."

When the day is done and the twilight falls,
I sit and dream of thee;
I think of the past and the future, dear,
And wonder what is to be.
I think of the years which I've passed at your side,
Of the trials and joys we have shared,
And your dear, sweet face, with its faith and trust,
For I know how much you have cared.
Then I dream and dream, though strange it seem,
I think of the "afterwards."

I wonder if, when this life here is o'er,
Will it be farewell for us evermore
If the love and trust which through all these years
Has survived all its hardships, its sorrows and tears;
Of the joys sweet and sacred which have oft filled our souls,
Will it be, dearest one, that all this is for naught?
Oh! not if we guide our lives as we ought,
We will live in the "afterwards."

When I remember the hope from above,
Which was given by Him in His infinite love,
That when life is done and our pilgrimage o'er
Then we will cross to the bright shining shore
And live in the "afterwards."

For the "afterwards" will be very sweet;
'Tis there all our dear ones we hope then to meet,
We will live them more truly and deeply above,
When we live in the realm of heavenly love.
The joy and the brightness of each happy soul
Who has fought well and won and at last reached its goal.
And forever to dwell in the "afterwards."

—Marie Meriam.

FINE SILVER TABLEWARE

EVERY ARTICLE WARRANTED FOR TEN YEARS

"WILD ROSE," A STERLING SILVER DESIGN

WITH FRENCH GRAY FINISH

This is the best silverware offer ever made by The Blade, and every subscriber should take advantage of it.

We Offer These Goods to You in Two Ways

First—Without a subscription to The Blade. This is for the benefit of those who have just renewed their subscription:

One-half dozen Teaspoons	$1.00
One-half dozen Dessertspoons	1.50
One-half dozen Tablespoons	1.60
Sugar Shell and Butter Knife in box	.80
Berry Spoon	.90
Gravy Ladle	.85
Cold Meat Fork	.60

Second—Combination offer for the benefit of those who desire to order these goods in connection with their subscription to The Weekly Blade:

One-half dozen Teaspoons and Weekly Blade, one year	$1.10
One-half dozen Dessertspoons and Weekly Blade one year	$1.60
One-half dozen Tablespoons and Weekly Blade one year	$1.70
Sugar Shell and Butter Knife in box and Weekly Blade one year	95c
Berry Spoon and Weekly Blade one year	95c
Gravy Ladle and Weekly Blade one year	90c
Cold Meat Fork and Weekly Blade one year	65c

You have never before had an opportunity to purchase silverware, warranted for ten years, at such prices as we have named above.

SPECIAL—If you will send us 12c and the names of four or more ladies who are not now taking the Weekly Blade, we will send you one of these handsome Wild Rose Teaspoons. It makes a very pretty souvenir spoon.

THE BLADE, - - - - TOLEDO, OHIO

THE BLADE'S REVISED WATCH LIST

FOR 1905-06

WALTHAM AND ELGIN MOVEMENTS

This season The Blade offers its readers a selection of first-class watches at prices lower than ever made before, and much lower than can be purchasd elsewhere. The cases are the best quality of gold filled cases made, and are fully guaranteed. The reliability and accuracy of the Waltham and Elgin movements are so well known that they need no special description from us.

If you want a thoroughly reliable watch, this is your opportunity to get one at a very low price.

The 25-year cases are plain or engine turned, an extra charge being made for hand engraved cases.

The 20-year cases are plain, engine turned, or engraved. No extra charge being made for engraved cases.

All watches are sent by registered mail, all charges prepaid by us.

The men's watches in the following list are all 18 size. The ladies' watches 6 size. We can furnish any size and any grade of Waltham and Elgin movements, and will be pleased to quote you prices.

This offer is intended only for Blade subscribers. We desire to give our subscribers the advantage of the best quality of everything at the very lowest price.

MOVEMENTS.

Fifteen jewels (settings); quick train; exposed pallets; cut expansion balance; Breguet hairspring; polished oval regulator; sunk second dial; nickel index; dust ring; damaskeened plates.

Seven jewels; quick train; exposed pallets; cut expansion balance; Breguet hairspring; polished oval steel regulator; sunk second dial; nickel index; dust ring; damaskeened plates.

MEN'S GOLD WATCHES.

Our prices include free delivery, in good running order.

No. 71—7-jeweled works, 25-year hunting case $13.75	No. 72—7-jeweled works, 25-year open-face case $11.00
Extra for engraved case. $1.00	Extra for engraved case, 80c
No. 73—15-jeweled works, 25-year hunting case $15.00	No. 74—15-jeweled works, 25-year open-face case $12.60
Extra for engraved case. $1.00	Extra for engraved case... 80c
No. 75—7-jeweled works, 20-year hunting case $11.20	No. 76—7-jeweled works, 20-year open-face case $8.75
No. 77—15-jeweled works, 20-year hunting case $12.25	No. 78—15-jeweled works, 20-year open-face case $10.0

MEN'S NICKEL SILVER WATCHES.

No. 79—7-jeweled works, nickel silver, open-face case $5.30	No. 80—15-jeweled works, nickel silver, open-face case $6.75

LADIES' GOLD WATCHES.

No. 81—7-jeweled works, 25-year hunting case $12.00	No. 82—15-jeweled works, 25-year hunting case $13.25
Extra for engraved case.. 80c	Extra for engraved case... 80c
No. 83—7-jeweled works, 20-year hunting case $10.50	No. 84—15-jeweled works, 20-year hunting case $11.75

SPECIAL.

Men's Nickel Silver, open-face cases, with 7 and 15-jeweled gilt Waltham and Elgin movements.

No. 85—7-jeweled gilt $4.75	No. 86—15-jeweled gilt $5.75

Remember our goods are just exactly as represented, and if you do not find them to be so, we will refund your money.

Address THE BLADE, Toledo, Ohio.

WATCHES WATCHES WATCHES

Special Holiday Season Offer.

No gift is so much appreciated by boys and young men as a handsome and reliable watch. We have just purchased a limited number of very fine, 12-size Watches. The 12-size is the smallest men's watch made, and is the favorite size for boys and young men. In fact, it is the popular size for every one who wants a small, thin watch. We are going to offer these watches to our readers at a very low price.

DESCRIPTION.

CASE—Twenty-year, gold-filled, open face, screw back and bevel plain; engine turned and engraved.

MOVEMENT—Seven-jeweled Elgin or Waltham.

PRICE—Our price to Blade readers is only $8.50

This watch cannot be purchased at any retail store for less than $12 to $15. Get your orders in early.

THE BLADE, Toledo, O.

SPECIAL A

17 Jewels. 20-Year Case.

We offer our readers for the holiday season the best watch offer ever made. The case is a 20-year, 18 size, gold-filled, hunting, plain engine turned or engraved, fitted with a 17-jeweled Elgin or Waltham movement—

Our price is, Hunting case $13.00
Our price is, Open Face $11.00

Get your orders in early, as we can only get a limited number of these watches.

THE BLADE, Toledo, O.

SPECIAL B

This is a 16 size 20-year, plain, engine turned or engraved hunting case, fitted with a 15-jeweled Walton or Elgin movement. Our price $13.75

Or the same movement in a 16 size open-face, nickel silver case $9.50

THE BLADE, Toledo, O.

FOR THE LADIES AND GIRLS

The O size is now the popular watch for ladies and girls. It is small enough to be worn as a Chatelaine, and is generally worn that way.

The case is 20-year, gold filled, Hunting, plain, engine turned, or engraved, and is fitted with a 7-jeweled Elgin or Waltham movement—

Our price is only $11.75

If you wish to give your wife, daughter or sister a handsome Xmas present, give her one of these watches.

Get your order in early.

THE BLADE, Toledo, O.

SOLID GOLD FACE, LINK CUFF BUTTONS.

These buttons are the latest designs, polished or satin finish, plain, pearl or opal set. Price, per pair $1.50

This quality of buttons cannot be purchased elsewhere for less than $2.25 per pair. We offer our readers only the very best quality at the very lowest price.

LOCKETS

Best quality of ladies' gold filled Lockets, 1¼ to 1½ inches in diameter; holds 2 pictures; satin finished. Price $1.60

Engraving large monogram 25c.

This Locket sells at retail stores for $2.50.

Address all orders to

THE BLADE, Toledo, O.

Elegant Gold Filled Chains

We are prepared to furnish our readers any kind of a watch chain either for ladies or gentlemen. Send for our illustrated price list.

Address all orders—

THE BLADE, Toledo, O.

Cut Paper Patterns

These patterns will be mailed to any address at only 10 cents each. In ordering, address your letter, "Pattern Department, The Blade, Toledo, Ohio." Inclose 10 cents in silver for each pattern ordered.

Please do NOT send stamps. Inclose a silver dime wrapped in tissue paper. Once more, do NOT send stamps. They stick together, and it is difficult to dispose of them, unless at a discount.

Write very plainly the NUMBER and the NAME of each pattern, as it appears under the cut, and also the BUST MEASURE you wish.

SPECIAL NOTICE.—Notice that the price, 10 cents, is for a SINGLE pattern. Many of these show TWO patterns in an illustration. In such cases, either will be sent on receipt of 10 cents, coin, or both on receipt of two silver dimes.

BE SURE to give both the number and the name of the pattern, and the bust measure also.

Address as follows, including price of pattern ordered: Pattern Department, The Blade, Toledo, Ohio.

6214—Men's Night Shirt.

Perhaps the general public is not aware that most women who sew at all make all the night shirts for the men of the family. Such is the fact, however, and that there is need for such a pattern is evidenced by the number of requests we have just had to publish such a garment. Of all the garments men wear the night shirt is the easiest to make. It is only a matter of sewing up an underarm sleeve and yoke seam and the garment is practically finished. Being loose fitting it requires little or no adjustment, so that with a well cut pattern the garment could be made without even a fitting. This fact suggests a most desirable Xmas gift. Two or three of these garments made up in warm outing flannel and finished in machine stitching, or with briar stitch and a hand embroidered initial on the pocket, would rather upset the popular idea that men's presents are always useless and impracticable. For a plain everyday night shirt in madras or outing, the outlay need not exceed 50 cents. For a French flannel or fine cambric, the cost depends entirely upon the length of one's purse strings or the time one cares to spend in the making. Outing flannel, pongee, cassimere, madras, cambric and nainsook are suitable materials.

Sizes 32 to 46 inches, breast measure.

4675—Infant's Wardrobe.

No reform has been more sweeping or contributed more to the wearer's comfort than in the making of the wee baby's clothes. No longer does ones use pins that might prick, buttons that might press upon the little body, or smother the baby in yards and yards of embroidery. The one object is to make everything for his babyship as sanitary and comfortable as possible. The up-to-date mother no longer accepts advice and traditions of mother and grandmother, but sets herself to finding out which is the most approved style of dress. Then it is that she learns that it isn't correct to have things daintily pretty for the new baby just in order to have them daintily pretty. Not that she must lose her liking for fancy berruffled things, but because the new fashions are sensible and best for the baby. The design must be simple though not severe; clothing must hang from the shoulders and it must be soft and light. In the making, simplicity and daintiness are the attractive features. A hemstitched hem is much prettier than

tucks; machine stitched and long stitches and coarse material are not in keeping with the dainty face and figure. A little handwork and a very little trimming of lace and insertion are charming, but superfluous trimming, under the ruthless handling of the averarge laundress, soon becomes a disappointment. Cambric and nainsook are used for dresses and the little Princess skirt opening on the shoulder should be made of silk or flannel. The sack should be made of cashmere or flannel and the coat and cap of silk or cloth. The set comprises five pieces—round yoke dress, one-piece kimono, cloak, cap and Princess skirt. What baby would not be happy upon his arrival to find such a wardrobe all complete, but his happiness would have no comparison to that of the mother who has manufactured the little garments.

6245—A Tab Yoke Shirt Blouse.

The separate shirtwaist has become so prominent a part of woman's apparelling that designs for these must of necessity be somewhat similar. The newest blouses avoid over-elaboration and utilize buttons and stitching for their adornment. Here is a blouse which is quite unique in its tab yoke finished with stitching and but-

tons. The front has the Duchess closing which marks many of the new designs. The leg-o'-mutton sleeve is used with a cuff tabbed to correspond with the yoke. The edges of the yoke, cuffs and collar should be stitched and well pressed to give them a neat finish. Broadcloth, serge, poplin silk or a washing fabric may serve as material and the pattern is not at all difficult to fashion. For the medium size 2½ yards of 44-inch material are needed.

6245—6 sizes 32 to 42 inches bust.

4754—An Effective Russian Blouse.

Double breasted effects are very pretty on small wearers and the gown shown is no exception. It is all in one piece and so not a difficult frock to fashion and very serviceable. The broad round col-

lar is a very becoming feature and may be trimmed in a variety of ways. The shield may be made of a contrasting color of fabric. Tucks stitched to long waist depth appear at each side of the front and back and provide fulness for the skirt. A belt of leather or the material may girdle the waist. A soutache braid would prove an effective trimming for the cuffs and broad collar. Serge, challis and pongee silk are all suitable materials. For the medium size the pattern calls for 3¼ yards of 36-inch material.

4754—Sizes 5 to 14 years.

6236—Lady's Long Kimono or Lounging Robe.

There are many times when a long kimono is more useful than a dressing sack, and the model here shown is for

one of those times. Women nowadays usually find time to rest a little while during the day, and during that time her resting robe should, first of all, be comfortable and above all dainty and pretty. The garment shown today will not be found wanting in either of these requirements. It is made in real Japanese style with drop shoulder and with kimono sleeve. If desired one could wear a sash or silk girdle with the garment, although it is very pretty simply trimmed with bands. Any of the figured silk, cashmere or cotton crepe, which is very inexpensive, may be used.

Sizes small, medium and large.

6213 — Lady's French Combination Chemise and Drawers.

To most women lingerie is the most interesting of all subjects and, indeed, most of them would sacrifice their outer garments to have a few pieces of nice lingerie, for somehow dainty, well-made and well-fitting under garments do have a great deal to do with making a girl appear well groomed and well dressed. It is apparent to everyone that with the present fashion of full skirts, there must be no fulness over the hips and to insure the modish clinging effect of the gown, the corset cover and undergarments must possess perfect style and fit. The latest lingerie importations which show the one-piece style are meeting with instant favor among fashionable women. The garment is cut on the newest lines and is entirely different from anything we have had before. The corset cover is in one piece with very little fulness in front and none in back. Additional fulness may be given the front by means of the frill which may or may not be used. The drawers which are attached to the lower part of the chemise are in circular style. They are shaped so that no darts are necessary and very little fulness at the back. They are finished with a deep frill and the whole effect is that of a short circular skirt. They may be as elaborately or as simply trimmed as desired.

Sizes, 32 to 44 inches bust measure.

GOVERNMENT IS WORRIED

Men In Oregon Land Frauds Are Missing.

Washington, Dec. 16.—The department of justice and the state of Oregon are much concerned regarding the whereabouts of S. A. D. Putter and Horace C. McKinley, both of whom were convicted in Portland, Oregon, in connection with the extensive land frauds in that state.

In their case sentence was deferred, on condition that they furnish the government with all the information possible concerning others involved in the alleged land swindling schemes. It also was agreed with them that if they withheld nothing, the other cases against them would not be pressed.

According to special Assistant Attorney General Francis J. Heney, of the department of justice, who is now in this city, they were needed particularly in the case against Representative Binger Hermann. Mr. Heney further said that through information imparted by them the government would recover over $700,000 worth of lands disposed of by the various parties to the alleged frauds.

Since their trial and conviction, however, they have been charged with implication in frauds in state school lands by which eastern bankers were swindled out of thousands of dollars and that on this account their apprehension is likewise desired by the state authorities.

The last heard from either of the men was about the middle of September. Puter reported himself as being in Chicago and McKinley sent word that he and his wife were in Seattle. About that time the case of Hermann was coming up for trial and Puter wired Heney asking if he could not postpone the trial until September 20. This was agreeable to the government's attorney, who, however, in the meantime, had decided to still further put off Hermann's trial. But all trace of the two men since has been lost.

25,481 PEOPLE EMPLOYED

Uncle Sam Issues Book on Government Employes at Washington.

Washington, Dec. 14.—The official register of the United States, the blue book, which is about to be issued, gives a recapitulation of the employes in the different departments, the government printing office and the offices of the District of Columbia, showing a total of 25,481 persons in the service in the city of Washington, receiving an aggregate compensation of $27,145,709. The employes are distributed as follows:

Department of state, 120; treasury, 6,301; war, 1,484; justice, 346; postoffice, 169; navy, 608; interior, 4,082; agricultural, 1,609; commerce and labor, 1,394; government printing office, 4,364; government of the District of Columbia, 4,004.

"SEC. TAFT IN ORIENT."

Official Photographer on the Trip Gives Lecture--Miss Alice Present.

Washington, Dec. 15.—Burr McIntosh made his initial appearance as a lecturer at the National theatre yesterday afternoon before a large and representative audience. His subject was "With Secretary Taft in the Orient." Two hundred beautifully colored views were shown. Mr. McIntosh was the official photographer with Secretary Taft and party to the Philippines.

Secretary and Mrs. Taft and Miss Alice Roosevelt and party occupied boxes while the auditorium was filled with those prominent in social and political life.

HUGH WATT NOW ON TRIAL

Financier Charged With Hiring Men to Kill His Wife.

London, Dec. 15.—The trial has commenced at the Old Bailey of Hugh Watt, the financier and former member of parliament, on the extraordinary charges of inciting hired agents to murder his divorced wife, Julia Watt, and Sir Reginald Beauchamp, whose divorced wife is now Lady Violet Watt, wife of the defendant.

Counsel for the prosecution made a long statement, going over ground covered at the police court trial, and contending that Watt was of perfectly sound mind, notwithstanding his strange conduct.

AMBITION OF ROOSEVELT

Great Waterway Must Be Owned by American People.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 14.—There will not be any long fight over the Panama canal. The house, having had its say regarding certain large salaries, and demanded their reduction, will concur in all other respects. The payment of two salaries to one individual cannot be defended anywhere outside Tammany Hall or certain life insurance offices. Any man who attempts to do so on the floor of congress will render himself highly ridiculous and deservedly unpopular. The United States is committed to the construction of the Isthmian canal and it must be pushed to completion no matter what it costs.

The great hope about the canal bonds that renders the whole Panama business attractive is that their issuance will ultimately lead to the adoption of the nation postal savings-bank system, modeled upon that of Great Britain, by means of which many millions will be saved annually by the working classes that now distrust all banks managed by private interests and have thoroughly abandoned the life insurance companies as means of providing for the traditional rainy day. If these Panama bonds are issued in small denominations they will all be taken up by the farmers and mechanics of the United States. The two per cent interest which they will bear is about the same rate paid today by the so-called savings banks, which give no guarantee beyond that of highly respectable boards of directors. The public has learned from the life insurance exposures how little confidence can be placed in the integrity of men of the best character who have no time upon their hands to investigate the conduct of the officials under them, and less inclination to interfere with their methods. The Panama bonds will be as good as any other issued by the government. Naturally, the express companies, the insurance corporations and the savings banks will send a lobby to Washington in opposition to any such measure; but unless the people of this country are willing to see the management of a great world enterprise drift into the hands of some foreign government—as the Suez canal fell into the maw of England—the Panama waterway must be owned by the American people.

National attention will be focused upon the house of representatives. In that body ten thousand bills have been introduced, which are about one-quarter of those that will be converted into alleged literature by the public printing office before the close of the Fifty-ninth congress. About 1,200 of the vast number will be passed—evidencing the distinction between promise and performance.

Already the prediction is made that this will be a two billion congress! Rash as that assertion appears, the large appropriations already foreshadowed in behalf of the Panama canal are highly portentious. Most of us were appalled beyond utterance when the billion-dollar congress under Speaker Reed was announced. Today we hardly marvel at congressional appropriations twice as large!

The senate, meanwhile, sits in daily solemn session, like the "grand, gloomy and peculiar" body it is. There is little for it to do at present, but there is an appearance of strenuosity about its deliberations that would deceive a novice. Bills, petitions and resolutions are put on file at the rate of 1,000 per day of four hours. When you remember that all bills appropriating the money from the United States treasury must originate in the house of representatives, one naturally wonders what can be the purpose of all these public documents! The explanation is that they have little importance. Most of them never will be heard of again. They are introduced at the request of constituents who feel that they'd like to lean against the government in some manner.

The presidential political policy entirely revolves about the Empire state. Theodore Roosevelt will not be a candidate for re-election. That is authoritative and final. His friends who assert that he contemplates a trip around the world at the end of his official term, in order to receive the plaudits of the monarchs of this earth, utterly fail in their estimate of the man. Nothing would be more repugnant to him than such a "junket," having the appearance of a bid for stately ceremonials at the capitals of every country visited. According to the usages of most potentates, gifts would be showered upon him everywhere. Prayers would be said for his ancestors in Japan; blessings would be heaped upon his most aged relatives by the bonz of every Chinese joss-house; durbars would be held in his honor at Calcutta and Teheran; the khedive of Egypt would send him up the Nile in a steam yacht more splendid than Cleopatra's barge; the pope would receive him in solemn state and permit him to kiss the sacred emerald in St. Peter's ring; King Alfonso would order a special performance of Carmen, having on the stage in the fourth act the real toreadore of Grenada, attended by his faithful picadores; King Victor Emmanuel would put the Eternal City en fete, and King Edward would entertain him at Windsor in royal state. These are only a few of the great honors that would be showered upon Theodore Roosevelt in the course of his triumphal progress. Of all the Presidents that have occupied the White House in fifty years, the present one has least desire for foreign adulation. He is an American of Americans.

His ambition is to return to public life atfer a brief rest, and he has fixed his eyes upon the United States senate. He wants to make himself master of his party in his own state, so that when the cares of the Presidency are ended he may still remain a factor in shaping the national policy. He covets not obscurity or retirement!

This is a highly worthy ambition, and nothing but its originality renders it subpect matter for discussion. Many of his closest friends have insisted that Theodore Roosevelt desired nothing so much as to repeat the career of John Quincy Adams by becoming a member of the house of representatives and joining in the rough-and-tumble discussions to be found therein. But experience has taught other lessons. The United States senate seems to be the place that now attracts him most.

$22,000,000 PER YEAR

Gov. Hoch Says Standard Oil Is Robbing the People.

Ottawa, Kas., Dec. 13.—Governor E. W. Hoch, speaking here last night at a gathering of Republicans, said:

"At this time the Kansas oil field is yielding sixty thousand barrels a day, an insignificant part of its capacity, and for this oil the Standard Oil company, which sets the price, is paying less than one-third what it paid a year ago. I believe it could pay $1 per barrel for this oil more than it is paying and still make a large profit. In other words, it is robbing this people of $60,000 a day, or $22,000,000 a year.

"We sit supinely down while we are being robbed of enough money every day by this one corporation to build a hundred homes for the homeless or to rear a great educational institution or to endow a college, or in one year to pay all the expenses of the state for five years."

I CURED MY RUPTURE

I Will Show You How To Cure Yours FREE.

I was helpless and bed-ridden for years from a double rupture. No truss could hold. Doctors said I would die if not operated on. I fooled them all and cured myself by a simple discovery. I will send the cure free by mail if you write for it. It cured me and has since cured thousands. It will cure you. Write to-day. Capt. W. A. Collings, Box 13A Watertown, N. Y.

TO TAKE FLEET ABROAD

Rear Admiral to Make Friendly Cruise in Mediterranean.

Washington, Dec. 16.—Sailing orders are now in preparation for the third division of the second squadron of the North Atlantic fleet, which, in command of Rear Admiral Charles D. Sigsbee, to sail from Tompkinsville on a long cruise in foreign waters.

The squadron has been ready for sea for several weeks, but her department had been delayed because of the disorder in the southern part of Russia, and of the international naval demonstration in Turkish waters, the government, it is stated, wishing to avoid any move that might be interpreted as affecting either sitnation. The state department now regards the Mediterranean situattion as warranting the appearance of the American warships on a friendly cruise.

It has been more than a year since

PHOTO BY PARKER-WASH'

REAR ADMIRAL SIGSBEE.

a division of battleships in command of Rear Admiral A. S. Barker cruised in the Mediterranean, and it was decided last summer that the flag should be shown there at the first opportunity by a squardon of cruisers.

Besides the armored cruiser Brooklyn, Admiral Sigsbee's flagship, the squadron consists of the protected cruisers Chattanooga, Commander Alexander Sharp; Galveston, Commander Wm. G. Cutler, and Tacoma, Commander Reginald F. Nicholson.

After a cruise in the Mediterranean and visits to a number of ports, the squadron will pass through the Suez canal and will then separate, the Chattanooga and Galveston taking leave of the flagship and going to the Asiatic station. With the Brooklyn and Tacoma Admiral Sigsbee will continue his cruise down the east coast of Africa, visiting various ports, rounding the Cape of Good Hope, and crossing to the east coast of South America, visiting the larger ports there.

Admiral Sigsbee's squadron will return to home waters in the late spring or early summer of next year, when he will be detached and ordered ashore.

C. F. PFISTER NOT GUILTY

Milwaukee Politician Is Discharged by Court

Milwaukee, Wis., Dec. 15.—Judge Brazee in the municipal court today decided that Charles F. Pfister was not guilty of larceny as bailee as charged in the indictment returned on August 4 last by the grand jury. The decision was on a motion to dismiss the defendant after the state had rested its case. The motion to discharge was argued at length, for a day and a half.

The charge against Mr. Pfister was that of larceny as bailee of $14,000 belonging to the Wisconsin Rendering company. He acted as stakeholder in an effort by that company to obtain a garbage contract in Milwaukee, $25,000 being placed in his hands. It was charged that he did not account for $14,000 of this.

Mr. Pfister, who is owner of the Milwaukee Sentinel and is interested in many other business enterprises, is well known throughout the country. He has figured prominently in politics for many years and was the leader of the so-called stalwart faction of the Republican party of Wisconsin.

BRIDEGROOM IS BESEIGED

Longworth Creates a Sensation in the Senate.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 16.—The appearance of Representative Longworth, the "national bridegroom," in the senate yesterday, almost threw that dignified body into a panic. Mr. Longworth came over to see Senator Foraker, but before he reached the senator's seat Senator Keane of New Jersey had grabbed him and there was a general rush of dignified senators to shake hands with the prospective bridegroom. When he reached Senator Foraker the senior senator from Ohio greeted him with enthusiastic congratulations, and Senator Allison, the venerable chairman of the committee on appropriations, left his seat to go over and extend his congratulations. There was very little effort to transact business in the senate until the happy bridegroom withdrew.

HOUSE NAVAL COMMITTEE

Investigation to Be Made at the Annapolis Naval Academy.

Washington, Dec. 14.—A resolution providing for a thorough investigation of the situation and conditions at the naval academy was introduced today by Representative Loud, of Michigan. The investigation is to be made by the house naval committee, which is especially instructed to "ascertain and report whether violations of the law and the regulations governing the academy continue and whether hazing, fagging, running and class fist fighting continue in practice there, and the knowledge of and responsibility of the officers of the academy for any conditions found to exist."

GEN. HAUPT DEAD.

Newark, N. J., Dec. 14.—General Herman Haupt, a veteran of the Civil war, and a noted railroad man and engineer, and the oldest graduate of West Point, died suddenly this morning on a Pennsylvania railroad train, between Jersey City and Newark.

ISLE OF PINES TREATY

Briefly Considered by Committee—Consular Service.

Washington, Dec. 13.—Secretary of State Root attended the meeting of the senate committee on foreign relations today. He discussed the bill introduced by Senator Lodge providing for the reorganization of the consular service. It is understood that the Isle of Pines treaty and the treaty relating to Santo Domingo were considered briefly, although the latter convention was reported to the senate last session and yesterday an effort to have it sent back to the committee was opposed and, therefore, was not urged strongly by Mr. Lodge, who had made the motion.

The secretary of state asked that the consular service be classified and the President authorized to assign members of the classes proposed to such posts as the interests of the service require, instead of having appointments made for specified posts. The creation of an adequate inspection service and the abolishment of the fee system was recommended by Secretary Root, in accordance with the recommendations made by President Roosevelt in his message to congress. This would necessitate a material increase in salaries at consulates where the fee system has been followed.

An increase in working forces was asked for, the secretary saying that at a number of foreign posts there are not sufficient employes for the performance of duties imposed by the immigration laws. The need of suitable quarters for embassies and legations was emphasized by the secretary, who declared that the poor accommodations provided detract from the respect to which the diplomatic representatives of this government are entitled.

Secretary Root also asked the committee to make provision for the creation of the post of minister to the new kingdom of Norway.

GUARD OF ROOSEVELT'S

Secret Service Man Gets Appointment as U. S. Marshal.

Washington, Dec. 16.—Frank H. Tyre, who is widely known as one of the personal guards of President Roosevelt, has resigned from the United States secret service, and in a few days will assume the duties of United States marshal of the southern district of West Virginia, to which office he recently was appointed. The president presented to him a handsome seal ring in appreciation of the personal services rendered him by Mr. Tyre.

PACKERS ARE INVOLVED

Missouri Grand Jury Reports Bills Against Rebaters.

Kansas City, Mo., Dec. 15.—Fourteen indictments were returned by the federal grand jury here today against common carriers, railway officials, shippers and freight agents, charging the giving of rebates and conspiracy to gain rebates as follows:

George H. Crosby, of Chicago, general traffic manager of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy railroad.

George L. Thomas, broker, of 320 Broadway, New York, a merchandise broker.

L. B. Taggart, New York, Crosby's chief clerk.

The Chicago & Alton Railroad company and John N. Faithorn and F. A. Wann, formerly vice president and general freight agent respectively, of the railroad company.

The Cudahy Packing company, Swift & Co., the Armour Packing company, the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad company, Nelson Morris, Edward Morris and Ira N. Morris, comprising the partnership of Nelson Morris & Co., D. H. Kreskip, Kansas City, freight broker.

The charges against the Chicago & Alton and Messrs. Faithorn and Wann are identical with those made in the indictments returned by the federal grand jury at Chicago, on December 13.

Philadelphia, Dec. 15. — The federal grand jury today found true bills of indictment against R. D. Wood & Co., the Great Northern Railway company, the Mutual Transit company, C. E. Campbell, freight agent of the Great Northern, L. W. Lake and Paul J. Diver, of the Mutual Transit company, charged with giving and receiving rebates.

The National Essence of Coffee company was not indicted because it gave testimony. No action was taken against the Pennsylvania, Reading or Baltimore & Ohio Railroad companies because employes of these railroads testified before the grand jury.

$11,000,000 FOR CANAL

Senate Committee Agree—Taft Is Satisfied.

Washington, Dec. 13.—The senate committee on appropriations agreed to report the emergency bill, carrying $11,000,000, but struck out the provision relating to bonds. This provision is to be referred to the finance committee and may be reported as a separate bill or an amendment to the canal appropriation bill.

In the course of the hearing Secretary Taft announced that he was willing to accept the amount as appropriated by the house ($11,000,000) and said that would be sufficient to carry on the work until April 1, but that another appropriation would then be necessary for the balance of the year.

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MOODY WIELDS BIG STICK

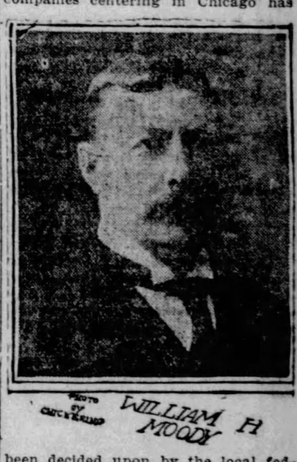
Orders Enforcement of Elkins Act Against Rebates.

Washington, Dec. 13.—Attorney General Moody has sent a circular letter to all the United States district attorneys, eighty-five in number, directing them vigilantly to enforce the provisions of the Elkins act against rebates and discriminations of all kinds by carriers. The method of proceedings suggested is by way of indictment.

It is the expectation that this letter will result in the prompt investigation of all complaints made of discriminations by carriers, followed by the indictments where the evidence warrants.

The department itself, it is stated, has investigated thoroughly all cases of discriminations brought to its attention, but it has not the facilities for a prompt investigation of the discriminatory practices all over the country, and it has been felt that these cases were of a nature that could be safely entrusted to the discretion of the district attorneys.

Chicago, Dec. 13.—Exhaustive investigation of some of the railroad companies centering in Chicago has



WILLIAM H. MOODY

been decided upon by the local federal officials. Subpoenas have been issued for a large number of railroad men and heads of large industrial concerns which have heavy yearly shipments, to appear before the federal grand jury, which has been summoned for December 19. District Attorney Morrison is said to have received his instructions from Attorney General Wm. H. Moody.

Philadelphia, Dec. 13.—Subpoenas were served by United States Deputy Mertz on a dozen persons, who have been summoned by United States District Attorney J. Whitaker Thompson to appear before the federal grand jury today and give testimony in the prosecutions to be brought against certain railroads and shippers for rebating. Ten witnesses were summoned in this city, one in New York and one in Washington. The district attorney still refuses to make public the names of witnesses or defendants.

It is said the contemplated prosecution has to do with at least three transportation companies, the headquarters of one of which is in the west.

District Attorney Thompson said today that investigation of complaints of rebating and other forms of discrimination has been thorough, and that it is probable action will be taken in several other large cities against certain carriers as a result of the prosecutions to be inaugurated here.

CONSUL AND WIFE HURT

British Embassy Party Has an Auto Accident.

Washington, Dec. 15.—In an automobile accident in the outskirts of Washington, late yesterday afternoon, Walter Beaupre Townley, counsel of the British embassy, sustained minor injuries, and his wife, Lady Susan Townley, was knocked unconscious and badly bruised about the head and left shoulder. Both were removed to the home of a nearby physician for the night.

The accident occurred on the military road northwest of the city, and the machine was speeding down an incline. At a turn of the road the brakes were applied suddenly, the machine slipped and overturned and the occupants were thrown out. Lady Townley remained unconscious some time.

LONGWORTH IN A TRANCE

Ohio Representative Talks Blissfully of Engagement.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 14.—Congratulations are pouring in on Representative Longworth. He said today that his engagement to Miss Roosevelt was not of long standing. Longworth was asked if he pighted troth on the steamer returning from the Philippines. "I really don't know," he said with a laugh; "I've been in what you might call a trance for so long that I am somewhat mixed on dates."

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A MERRY CHRISTMAS to the HOUSEHOLD.

JENNINGS.

CHRISTMAS CHIMES of HARMONY.

JENNINGS.

WEDNESDAY.
Ring, temple bells, the tidings glad,
'Tis Christmas morn;
Sing, children, of your brother Christ,
On this day born!

THURSDAY.
In the pure soul, whether it sing or pray,
The Christ is born anew from day to day.

FRIDAY.
Make the world a little better as you go;
As you meet your brother going to and fro,
You may lend a friendly hand,
Lift the fallen! Help them stand!
Making the world a little better as you go.

SATURDAY.
O the toils of life!
How small they seem when love's resistless tide
Sweeps brightly o'er them!

SUNDAY.
He liveth glorified—set far above
Angelic thrones and powers; yet still He bears
Within His human breast a brother's love;
His brow divine a brother's aspect wears;
The wounded spirit that in meekness dares
To call Him Master tenderly he cheers.

MONDAY.
Oh, Light that no eye can behold!
Oh, Glory that words cannot tell!
My lips have been touched with its power.
In my soul it forever shall dwell.
The longing to sing of my Lord
I have prayed for from morning till night.
It has not been in vain, for I know
That the Christ-child has come on this night.

TUESDAY.
He loveth always, faileth never,
So rest in Him today, forever.

LET ALL the EARTH be FILLED with GLADNESS

BY EMILY S. BOUTON.

JENNINGS.

CHRISTMAS.

And I will arise and rejoice today
In the world's glad loving and giving,
And will sing a song in my heart alway
For the untold richness of living.

These lines of Lilian Whiting's, express, I think, the undercurrent of feeling which, often unrecognized in the crowding thought and action of the present, is, after all, strong in the hearts of the majority as the Christmas holidays draw near. Faces overcast with care seem to brighten more readily. Smiles are closer to the surface. Gentle words are more easily spoken. And with it all there is in the air a sort of half-expectancy as of some great good upon the way, a something that will make humanity, collectively and individually, thrill with gladness.

And why should it not be so, remembering what the season commemorates—the life of one who showed the glorious possibilities of every human being, the wondrous heights which, through love and unselfish service each may attain. Men may quarrel, as they have quarreled adown the centuries, over the precise relation of Jesus to the world, but the lesson of his life and death, the truth and beauty of his teaching remains the same always, and gives the reason

For the swinging and the ringing
Of the joy-bells Christmas evening.

It matters little that we know the beautiful festival was borrowed from the Roman Saturnalia, and that many of the observances in England which have crossed the water came from those of the British Druids at the time of the winter solstice, today they have for us their later mystic meaning. There was a time when the Puritans would not allow the celebration of Christmas other than by solemn religious services, but hesitation upon that score has passed away, and now traditionary rites form a large part of the merry observances.

England's Christmas time is always joyfully celebrated to a greater degree, perhaps, than anywhere else in the Christian world. There the Yule log is burned; the yule candle lighted; the mistletoe hung. Even more than here, the holly, beautiful with its green and crimson coloring, is used for decoration.

In Sir Walter Scott's Marmion is a fine description of the Christmas merry making in "ye olden days."

On Christmas Eve the bells were rung;
On Christmas Eve the mass was sung;
That only night in all the year,
Saw the stoled priest the chalice rear.
The damsel donned her kirtle sheen;
The hall was dressed with holly green;
Forth to the wood did merry-men go,
To gather in the mistletoe.
* * * * * * *
All hailed with uncontrolled delight,
And general voice the happy night,
That to the cottage, as the crown,
Brought tidings of salvation down.

Then came the dancing, the feasting and the general merriment. One can imagine how the burning of the immense Yule candle upon the table, in castle and in cottage was watched, for should it go out before the evening was over, it was thought to portend evil to its owner. Whether there was any giving of gifts as is the custom today, I have not learned, but at least there was an interchange of the Christmas good wishes that belong to the season.

It is interesting to recall whence came the use of the holly, the mistletoe, and the Yule log and candle, that enter so largely into the Christmas festivities in England.

The custom of using holly is very ancient. Probably it came from the old Teutonic practice of hanging the living rooms of houses with evergreens, in order that the sylvan spirits, those dwelling in the forests and full of good will to human beings, might be induced to enter in where were warmth and good cheer, bringing with them joy to the household.

Old traditions tell us that the kind of holly used also made a difference in the future of the family. There were two varieties—the prickly and the non-prickly, which were, in common parlance, named "he" and "she." If it chanced that the prickly was employed in the decorations, then the husband would rule in all household affairs during the year to come, but if the non-prickly, or the smooth holly, was hung, the wife's influence would be paramount during the same time, and all things go according to her desire. Doubtless there was much anxious hunting by the masculine gatherer of the holly.

The feeling for the mistletoe grew out of the reverence in which it was held by the Druids whenever they found it growing upon the robus, or oak, which Pliny says was their sacred tree. Whatever was borne upon its branches, they regarded as sent from heaven, and the tree itself was marked as one chosen by God. There was, no doubt, a mystic meaning which these outward things symbolized, but which was not understood by those who believed not in the ancient religion.

The burning of the Yule log and candle came from our Scandinavian ancestors. At the time of the winter solstice it was their custom to build huge bonfires in honor of their god Thor. They considered this the turning of the year, and it was, doubtless, from them that came the old way in England of reckoning Christmas day to be the first day of the year because the sun then finishes his course through the signs of the zodiac and begins a new one.

I have thus far spoken chiefly of observances in England, because it is from there that our own come largely, and with the English thought we have most sympathy. Christmas is, however, observed wherever the name Christian is applied to the people.

An amusing term is, in France, sometimes used to designate the time, and that is 'the day of old clothes." It is the fruit of a curious custom of giving new cloaks to all who belonged to the court. An old history quaintly describes its beginning:

"On Christmas Eve, 1245, the king, Louis XI, bade all his court be present at early morning mass. At the chapel door each man received his new cloak, put it on and went in. As the day rose, each man saw on his neighbor's shoulder that which betokened the crusading vow."

The years come and fleetly go. Christmas observances change, but deeper and stronger grows the influence of the life and teachings of Jesus of Nazareth, whose birth we commemorate. And while we are wishing each other "a merry Christmas," let our hearts be filled with thankfulness for all that the season symbolizes—

For the comfort of Hope and the beauty of Love,
For the Faith that faileth us never,
For the Peace on Earth and Good-will toward men,
And the Star that Shineth forever!

The Woman of a Daily Christmas.

In the very heart of the city of New Orleans, where a grass-grown triangle marks the meeting of two thoroughfares, stands the first public monument erected to a woman in the United States. This is the statue of Margaret Haughery, the baker, or Margaret, the "Orphans' Friend," as she is more familiarly known, writes Margaret Anne Logan in the December number of Men and Women.

The white marble figure, on its pedestal of the same pure material, commands no special attention for beauty of outline or grandeur of proportion; it represents only a plain, middle-aged woman in her simple, everyday costume, holding her knitting in one hand, while the other rests upon the young child at her side. This attitude is suggestive of the woman's two crowning virtues, industry and benevolence; and two words, "Our Margaret," carved below, recall a story which should be known throughout the land.

Margaret Haughery was an Irish woman, whose maiden name was Gaffney. A few years after her marriage she was bereft by the death of her husband and only child, and thereafter her warm heart lavished its affection upon the orphans of the city.

For years she lived in the orphan asylum conducted by the Sisters of Charity, managing the large dairy and doing any other work that came to her hand.

Discovering a talent for bread making, she opened a little bakery to which soon came many good paying customers, and as many who could only give their thanks in payment. These last were never sent away empty-handed. During the fearful epidemic of 1853, widows and orphans, whom the fever had left desolate, soon discovered where to obtain relief from the famine.

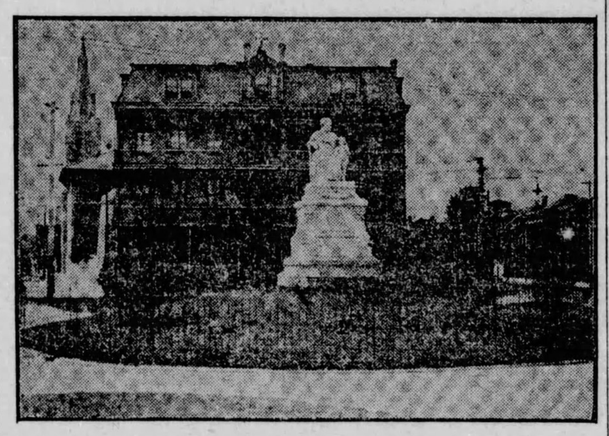
The little shop became ere long too small for the continual demands that were made upon it. Finally, a large building was purchased in the business portion of the city, and "Margaret's Bakery," its business vastly enlarged, became famous.

She had made a fortune, but spent little on herself. Promptly at the call of every church and every charity Margaret was ready to respond, but, to the last, the good sisters and their orphans were her special care.

When Margaret died, on February 9, 1882, New Orleans put on mourning. In the daily papers appeared long eulogies set in heavy black borders; schools and offices were closed and business virtually suspended that all might attend the funeral of this plain, uneducated woman. High and low, rich and poor, city officials and companies of the military, the children of eleven orphan asylums—white and black, Catholic and non-Catholic—followed her remains to the old St. Louis cemetery in the French Quarter of the city. The archbishop of the diocese conducted the obsequies.

When a monument was proposed, subscriptions flowed in freely, and, on the day of the unveiling, two years after, there was another great demonstration. The highest dignitaries presided at the ceremony, but a little orphan pulled the cord that revealed the statue.

"'St. Margaret,' says one commentator, "lived her life in grand heights and breadths. Her monument, built by the city she blessed, stands now, in place of her, a constant reminder that one's own children are not the only children in the world; that though one be poor, there is work to do for others; that though one be ignorant, one may yet carry Heaven's own light far and near."



MONUMENT TO MARGARET HAUGHERY, THE "BREAD WOMAN OF NEW ORLEANS.

Keeping Christmas.

It is a good thing to observe Christmas day. The mere marking of time and seasons, when men agree to stop work and make merry together, is a wise and wholesome custom. It helps one to feel the supremacy of the common life over the individual life. It reminds a man to set his own little watch now and then, by the great clock of humanity which runs on sun time.

But there is a better thing than the observance of Christmas day, and that is, keeping Christmas.

Are you willing to forget what you have done for other people, and to remember what other people have done for you; to ignore what the world owes you, and to think what you owe the world; to put your rights in the background, and your duties in the middle distance, and your chances to do a little more than your duty in the foreground; to see that your fellowmen are just as real as you are, and try to look behind their faces to their hearts, hungry for joy; to own that probably the only good reason for your existence is not what you are going to get out of life, but what you are going to give to life; to close your book of complaints against the management of the universe and look around you for a place where you can sow a few seeds of happiness—are you willing to do these things even for a day? Then you can keep Chirstmas.

Are you willing to stoop down and consider the needs and the desires of little children; to remember the weakness and loneliness of people who are growing old; to stop asking how much your friends love you, and ask yourself whether you love them enough; to bear in mind the things that other people have to bear on their hearts; to try to understand what those who live in the same house with you really want, without waiting for them to tell you; to trim your lamp so that it will give more light and less smoke, and to carry it in front so that your shadow will fall behind you; to make a grave for your ugly thoughts, and a garden for your kindly feelings, with the gate open—are you willing to do these things even for a day? Then you can keep Christmas.

Are you willing to believe that love is the strongest thing in the world—stronger than hate, stronger than evil, stronger than death—and that the blessed life which began in Bethlehem nineteen hundred years ago is the image and brightness of the Eternal Love? Then you can keep Christmas.

And if you keep it for a day, why not always?

But you can never keep it alone.

From The Spirit of Christmas. By Henry Van Dyke. Copyright, Charles Scribner's Sons.

The Cozy Corner

A CHRISTMAS GATHERING.

This is truly a Christmas meeting today in the Cozy Corner, for every one is talking of Christmas plans, or finishing the many little pieces of work that always come at the last minute. Mrs. Elizabeth Corning, of Minnesota, explained why she was in a hurry to finish her work thus:

I always mean to have my gifts that are to be sent away ready at least a week, and some of them a month, before Christmas. This relieves me of the care of them at the last when everything seems to come at once, and besides this selfish thought, I like to feel that I am not responsible for overworking the express and mail men, who have to work so late at these holiday times. If we would send packages earlier and mark them "do not open until December 25," these hard working servants of Uncle Sam would be able to deliver them so there would not be this "last minute" rush.

SENDING PARCELS.

"Speaking of sending parcels away," said another lady, "did you ever notice how many of them are delivered in what might be called a spoiled condition? Sometimes the box is so broken that it has lost a part of the contents, others will have the paper wrappings nearly torn off and still others are not delivered for some days—if ever—and all of these troubles are caused by a lack of care in doing up the packages."

Unless one pays letter postage these packages must be fastened in a manner that the postoffice employes can easily see the contents—not that the package must be left open, but tied in a way that the end can be opened if necessary.

If articles are sent in paper boxes care should be taken to tie a string, or, better still, to paste a strip of cloth around the box to strengthen the corners, then this should be well wrapped in stout paper and firmly tied. Do not trust to a tow string wound once around a box and fastened so that a slight pull will loosen the knot, and be sure to direct plainly. We must remember that these packages sent by mail have to be crowded into the mail bags with hundreds of others, and will, naturally, have some careless handling, and if we do not prepare for this, we must not be surprised that they do not reach their destination in good shape, nor must we blame it all on the postman.

Another lady spoke of the way men look at packages done up by the average woman and suggested that we all take a lesson in doing up bundles from the clerks in the stores, who fix them so nicely.

DAINTY WRAPPING.

Miss C. F. W., a young lady from Illinois, spoke of how much better a gift appears—even thought it be a small one—if it is daintily wrapped. A package of white tissue paper containing twenty-four large sheets, can be bought for five cents, and large quantities at even a less price. A package neatly done up in this and tied with a bit of baby ribbon, with a sprig of holly tucked under the ribbon, will seem much nicer to the recipient than if the same gift were sent done up in brown wrapping paper. An investment of twenty-five cents will enable one to send a number of packages trimmed with tissue paper and ribbon, and these will more than pay for the outlay, in the pleasure they give both to the sender and the one who receives them, making them pleasing to the eye as well as to the heart of both parties.

READING HER CHRISTMAS BOOKS.

A YOUTHFUL VISITOR.

Among our visitors today is a little girl who said she "had to come" because she "couldn't be left alone." She was such a nice child that no excuse was needed, and we hope she will come again. She was making a twine bag for her mother to hang over the kitchen table to hold the pieces of string that come around the groceries. It was crocheted of colored twine—red, white and blue—in alternate rows of each color. A cord was to be run into the top to hang it up by, and an end of the twine inside was to be pushed through the little opening in the bottom of the bag. This, she explained, would make it handy for mamma. When she wanted to use a string for anything, she could just pull on the end hanging out, and take as long or short a piece as she needed.

"Susie" also explained that a part of the gift was the promise that she would take care and wind the string on the ball as fast as any was received.

A CO-OPERATIVE PLAN.

At four o'clock Mrs. John Brown announced that she must go home so her friend, who was staying with the children, could be relieved of this work. She explained that she and this friend were "co-operating" this winter; one had three children, the other two, and each week one woman took care of all the children for a day, while the other had the time for extra work, or to spend in pleasure.

They had found this plan to work excellently, and she suggested that if others would try it they would have more opportunity for rest, reading, or to keep up their social visiting with their neighbors.

The suggestion was well received and before the meeting closed two or three such "partnerships" had been formed.

The Christmas Tree.

What shall we do with the Christmas tree after the week for which it is meant is over? It seems too bad to throw it out in the brush pile to end its holiday life (it always seems to me that trees have feelings), and if it is kept in the house it becomes a nuisance, as the leaves dry up in the hot room and fall to the floor.

Last year we placed our tree in the yard, close to the dining room windows, and fastened to the branches some shallow paper boxes, which we kept well supplied with crumbs from the table each day. Occasionally a bit of meat or an apple was added to the bill of fare, and it was a delight to all of the family to see how soon, and how regularly, the birds came for their meals to this new boarding house. A sentinel was perched on a tall tree, near the house, and as soon as he saw that "breakfast or dinner was served," he gave the call that brought the birds in flocks from all about the neighborhood, though before his call not a bird could be seen.

On days when the weather would permit a basin of water was placed where it could serve as tea or coffee for these, our dear boarders, who enjoyed their Christmas tree for many weeks.

The above is a charming idea, which would give comfort and pleasure to the "winged inhabitants of the air" anywhere.—Ed.

A writer in Good Housekeeping tells of a novel Christmas tree for the pets of the family. The top of the children's tree is cut off, and on the straggling little branches is hung catnip, bits of meat and fish, and small bones. The "tree" is then placed firmly in a box of sand and placed on the floor and it is worth all of the trouble, to see how the cat, or the dog, enjoys it, and the delight they will express when they realize that it is for them. Try it, children, and have a tree for the faithful friends, Mrs. Cat and Mr. Dog.

FOR HE'S A JOLLY OLD FELLOW.

The ChristmasDinner

It must, of course, be a little better than it is on ordinary days; otherwise how could we show our perfect happiness? To be sure, some there be who claim there is another reason for the general rejoicing on the 25th of December, but to a great many of us it would be almost meaningless were it not for the exchange of gifts, and the good dinner, with which we make ourselves uncomfortable in eating. But as long as good dinners are the fashion The Blade cook will do her part by giving a few good and reliable recipes for them, and wishing all who try them a good digestion.

Christmas Cake.

To one quart of light bread dough add one pound of brown sugar, half a pound of butter, one teacupful molasses, four eggs, one teacupful sweet milk, one teaspoonful each of cinnamon, cloves and nutmeg, half a teaspoonful of allspice, one cupful seeded raisins, one-fourth cupful sliced citron, and enough flour to make it of the consistency of ordinary cake batter. Let it stand in a warm place for an hour, and bake in two tins, one a little smaller than the other. When baked place the smaller cake on the top of the larger one, the tops of the cakes together, and cover with icing. On the top of the pyramid formed by them place a candle, and around the edge of the large cake, near the bottom, place other candles about three inches apart, and finish with a wreath of holly around the cake and a spray of holly around the candle at the top. To place the candles, make a hole in the cakes the size of the candle, wrap the bottom of the candle in paraffine or buttered paper, and press into the holes. When the cake is served, have the candles lighted. This gives the table a "Christmassy" air that is very pleasing.

For the light supper that usually follows the Christmas dinner, or for an entertainment when refreshments will be served, an excellent sandwich can be made of the remnants of the Christmas fowl, either chicken or turkey:

Chicken Sandwich.

Chop fine all of the meat left from dinner. Make a thick, white sauce, using half a cupful of cream instead of milk. Into this stir one tablespoonful of butter and two of flour, season with salt, pepper and a few drops of onion juice, if liked. When boiling, add the minced chicken and one teaspoonful of curry powder. When cold, spread between thin slices of bread.

"Pancake Pie."

This is a very old-fashioned way of serving pancakes, but it is also a very good way, and makes a nice dessert, or a supper dish, or for a luncheon when not much is desired:

Bake the griddle cakes the size of a tea plate, and as each is taken from the griddle spread with butter, sugar and a grating of nutmeg. Pile them on one another and keep hot till served, then cut down through the pile, in triangular pieces like pie. Shaved maple sugar is delicious on them, and being buttered and sugared while hot, the cakes are good all the way through.

If one cannot eat pie on Christmas—or any other time—on account of the crust, let them try using sweet cream instead of lard, and allow two teaspoonfuls of baking powder to each quart of flour and one spoonful of salt. Wet this with sweet cream, and roll thinner than ordinary crust.

This can be eaten by dyspeptics and children without any unpleasant effects.

Banner Puzzlers

FOR OCT.

New Work..... .... Buckeye Jr.
Solutions..... .....W. P. E.

1.—WHO ARE THEY?

The 'Cademites will give a dancing party on Christmas Eve, these members serving on the reception committee: Messrs. E. Mon, S. Gudene, H. Reny, E. O. Groverge, V. Sidar, R. Scroperys, H. Samner, T. Wen, Andrew Sileson and J. Rubeckey; Mesdames E. Whakey, T. Meet, Ina Lupe, D. Harnel, Cora Wilmy, Lois Cevad, Bet Belltrurl, O. Dee, Isol Ilin and N. Niena.

The first number on the program will be a "contra dance," herewith represented. Those "going down the middle" are two of O. W. C.'s most dignified and prized members.

X X O X X
X X O X X
X X O X X
X X O X X
X X O X X
X X O X X

1.—A precious stone.
2.—Joyful.
3.—A visitor.
4.—A priest.
5.—"The ship of the desert."
6.—A most useful article of furniture.

In the next "set" two equally prominent pupils are going "up the outside".

X O O X
X O O X
X O O X
X O O X
X O O X
X O O X
X O O X
X O O X

1.—To cleanse with water.
2.—A girl's name.
3.—The cry of a cat.
4.—Signifies all. (Latin.)
5.—Thin.
6.—Waste.
7.—Wickedness.
8.—Meaning three.
9.—To melt.

In the "fawncy dawnce" that will follow, a new but lively member will take the "gentleman's part" all around. By referring to the first two letters in each word forming it, reading from upper left, right around the circle, his name may be learned.

1
O O X X
X O
4 X O 2
O X
O X
X X O O
3

1.—The least possible quantity.
2.—To remain passive.
3.—Lacking industry.
4.—Requiring little effort.

In the grand march occurring just before supper, four other 'Cademites will be seen to great advantage. Their names may be found by substituting letters for the given numbers, beginning at the upper left and reading always from left to right.

6-12-13-6-18-18
9-3-8-1-18-4--
19-7-5-15-23-8-
1-19-5-12-20-15
14-13-9-12-20-15
14-5-13-5-18-25.

After the dancing delicious refreshments will be served, and these toasts given:

1.—To the Three Kings of Cologne! Who were they?
2.—To St. Nicholas! And who was he?

Answers to Puzzles of December 7.

1.—Dr. Thomas Arnold.
2.—Words forming hour-glass: Freemason, Calends, halve, ape, O, emu, dread, drunken, dromedary. Centrals—Melpomene.
3.—7.6+ (See Chat.)
4.—C-ranny, l-umber, E-rebus, o-pinion, d-ado, a-lum, v-omer, i-serim, s-ombre. Cleo Davis.
5.—A blunder-buss was a kind of short musket with a very wide bore, sufficient to take in several shot or bullets at once. It had a limited range, but was very destructive at close quarters. As a military weapon it was chiefly of service in defending passages, doorways, staircases, etc.
6.—Sir R. C. Hoase wrote—
"A woman is like to—but stay!
What a woman is like who can say?
There's no living with, or without one;
She's like nothing on earth but—a woman!"

Chat.

Milton gives this rule and solution to his problem answered today:

To the sq. of ½ the side of a sq. inscribed within the circle, add the sq. of ½ the difference between the length of side of square, and the diameter of the circle. Extract sq. rt. of result. 14 inches is the length of the largest sq. that can be inscribed in a circle 20 ins. in diameter, 14 divided by 2 equals; squared equals 49. 20 minus 14 equals 6; divided by 2 equals 3; squared equals 9; 49 plus 9 equals 58. Sq. rt. of 58 equals 7.6+.

Criticisms on Milton's former problem continue to come in. Will he be so kind as to send in any information he has on the subject.

Those sending criticism this week were S. G., E. G. R., J. K. Farrar, and C. D. Abbott.

S. G., it is impossible for a personal answer to be sent in regard to the puzzles. In this Milton discussion alone, it would have kept the Schoolmistress busy to answer all the letters sent; and if one is entitled to an answer all must be equally entitled.

When Milton looks the "ground over" again he will probably be able to find his mistake or convince you he is right.

His statement will be given in Chat, but there is not room here for any of the excellent diagrams and solutions which have been sent in.

The general opinion seems to be that the distance was about 43 miles.

Other pupils reciting today were: Shelby, Lewis Anderson, Hawkeye and Buckeye Jr.

J. Adams seems to have come into the 'Cademy by mistake, as the problem he answers has not appeared in the Column. However, he is very welcome to come again.

Shelby, new pupils are very welcome, and none the less so when they have become old ones.

SANTA'S AUTOMOBILES.

For The Blade.

I write this to tell you, my children, we've purchased two automobiles,
With softest of leather cushions, and biggest of big-tired wheels;
They're said to be swift and quite noiseless, to run like a beautiful dream,
We find up in this cold country that gasoline's better than steam.
Our reindeer are old and stiffened, our sleigh has become too small,
So now, don't sit up, my dear children, till you fall fast asleep on the rug,
On Christmas eve, while waiting for the sound of our "chug-chug."
For autos won't travel on house tops, and we'll have to keep in the road,
And big graphaphones and pianos make an awfully heavy load.

If you fail to receive your presents, why then, you will surely know

FOR AUTOMOBILES AREN'T REINDEER.

To hold the expensive presents for which the dear children call;
For twentieth century children refuse to be satisfied
With simple and useful Christmas gifts with which we have kept supplied.
At home, in far off Alaska, 'mid the wonderful rich gold mines,
We feel very sure, in a few years more, we will have to build trolley lines;
And run heavy trains of freight cars all loaded with gifts and toys,
To satisfy all the exactions of extravagant girls and boys.
That we've met with some sort of an accident, and our new machines won't go;
For automobiles aren't reindeer, and we do not quite yet understand
Just how to control the swift critters, or where we are likely to land.
But then, we are practicing daily and we find it the greatest fun,
And we feel quite sure in a few days more, we can make a "Century Run."
But we'll try not to get too excited, for think what a joke it would be,
If Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus should forget their own Christmas tree!

—LUELLA WILSON SMITH.

Why Santa Claus Rode in the Patrol Wagon

AN M. G. R. STORY.

It had been a jolly Christmas Eve. The usual order of things had been reversed, and instead of one of the elders playing Santa Claus, Teddy, the nine-year-old, had come down the chimney, dressed in the cutest red suit, padded to "Clausian" proportions, peaked cap, fur-topped boots, and all, with a sack full of gifts for the aunties and cousins, the uncles and grandparents.

The chimney was an original idea with Teddy's mother, who had carried it out very secretly with the help of the handy man. It was a wide box reaching from floor to ceiling, painted to represent bricks, and fastened firmly at top and bottom to make it quite steady. It ended at the floor with an open fireplace, mantel and all complete, and about three feet above the floor was a landing with a trap-door in it. On this platform stood a ladder which terminated at an unused register hole in the room above.

Through this register hole Teddy had clambered down the ladder, swung aside the trapdoor, and appeared before his astonished relatives. With diamond dust powdered over his white beard and glistening in the fur trimmings of his suit, he looked a very frost-sprite, and the innovation proved to be a perfect success. After his sack was emptied and the tree had been shorn of its fruit, the elder members of the family went away to the midnight service at the church, the servants were all out holiday making, and the big house was quite empty except for small Teddy, who, by the way, was said by the neighbors to be "Small for his size, and old for his age!"

He had been urged to go with the others, but had declined for reasons of his own, chief among which was the fact that the red suit could not be worn to church, and he was very much in love with himself in it, so, every one being gone and the house quiet, he put out the light in the library, where the chimney stood, and sat himself down cross-legged to think the whole affair over. He must have thought himself to sleep, for he was awakened by low voices in the reception hall just outside the library door.

"There's no one home; they've gone to mass, help and all, and won't be back until after midnight. It's near that now, but we've plenty of time. Sit you there on the stairs, and watch the front door, and listen. Jim's posted outside; if he whistles come and tell me; I'm for the silver in the sideboard there; they got it all from the bank today for the blow-out tomorrow. Then I'll take in the other rooms, and gather up the things Santy brought them!"

Then Teddy heard the speaker go away towards the dining room, while his partner settled down to his watch. Like a shadow the child crept across the room to the door leading into the dining room from the library, and turned the key. A sliding door between heavy portieres led into the hall, and he knew it had been well oiled the day before, so he ventured to slip that into place, holding his breath lest the man outside might hear.

Tiptoeing across the room, he stopped beside the table full of shining trinkets. "I may not get back in time to catch them," he thought. "I'll just put these out of sight."

He closed the boxes softly and dropped them into his Santa Claus pack, then, lifting the trapdoor in the false chimney, he climbed through, dragging the pack after him half way up the ladder, where he tied it to a round with the straps that had fastened it across his shoulder. With his hands freed, he soon crawled through the register hole, replaced the carpet, and set a big armchair over the spot, working always in the dark and with the least possible noise.

Then he went to a window at the other end of the room, quite out of sight of the watcher posted below at the corner, and in a moment more was sliding down one of the pillars supporting the roof of the porch that ran around three sides of the house. Two minutes later he was running at the top of his speed down the side street toward the nearest substation, his soft Santa Claus boots making no sound as he sped over the snow.

It was only four blocks away, and in a very few minutes six sturdy bluecoats were quietly up the street back of Ted's home.

"They are watching the front, but I think they came in through the kitchen." Ted had volunteered. "The front door was chained, so they could not have come in there."

He begged hard to go with them, but the officer in charge held him back.

"You're tired out now son," he said benignly; "They'll ring in for the patrol when they've caught them, and you can go up in the wagon." And so it came to pass that as the relatives came home from the midnight service, the patrol wagon drove up from the opposite direction, and seated in front, was Santa Klaus, ringing the gong, and exceedingly proud of his position.

The above original Christmas story was sent by a M. G. R. in response to Miss Prudence's request, made some weeks ago. The Chaperon accepts it for the circle with thanks, and hopes that whether Santa comes to them this year, via the chimney, the front door, or the Patrol Wagon, he will bring to all her boys and girls many good gifts.

The M. G. Rs. have often said they could tell teach other's "style" of writing, and they are hereby invited to "guess" who the author of this tale may be.

POWERS BACKING CHINA

Japan Fails to Make Negotiations With the Chinese.

Tokio, Dec. 18.—The continued failure of Baron Komura to conclude the negotiations with the Chinese government, which were begun after the conclusion of the Russo-Japanese war, is an open secret.

It is believed by some Japanese here that the extent of Japan's concessions are such as will fail to secure what they think should have properly been her acquisitions as the result of the treaty at Portsmouth. For example, the building of the Kirin Chang Chung railway has not been conceded and the stationing of railway guards is not to be permitted, leaving the work in the hands of the police, who will be withdrawn when the period of withdrawal of troops expires. China's firm attitude is believed to be due to combined pressure indirectly asserted by Russia, France and Germany.

The outcry against the alleged weakness of the cabinet is increasing and some person's advocation of the Pekin negotiations. The kindness of the emperor of Germany to former Japanese prisoners of war on their way home is appreciated, but the Japanese appear to be distrustful of his style of diplomacy.

SIXTY THOUSAND TROOPS

In Russian City—American Consul Impressed With Seriousness of the Situation.

Vienna, Dec. 16.—An American who has just arrived here from Warsaw says that when he drove to the station to take a train for Vienna, his carriage was stopped by strikers and it was only permitted to proceed when the driver had removed his uniform coat and donned a coat of sheepskin, like that worn by peasants. "All the people who were able to leave Warsaw," he says, "have already departed, and the situation is growing more serious every day.

"It is no exaggeration to say that the power of the league of leagues seems to be almost unlimited. The streets are full of agitators who declaim from the corners. I noticed particularly that many of these were young men, between 18 and 20 years of age. It is no uncommon occurrence to see well dressed men exhorting the soldiers to join their brothers in trouble instead of shooting them down. The propaganda undoubtedly is making headway.

"Up to the present there has been no sign of actual rebellion on the part of the troops stationed at Warsaw, who number some 60,000, except that on several occasions they refused to fire upon the people, but well informed Poles expect that any day they may see the troops displaying the red flag."

Arthur Leffingwell, the American consul at Warsaw, who is spending a few days here, although reticent regarding the expression of political opinions, seems to be impressed with the seriousness of the situation at Warsaw. He said:

"The property owning classes, even those who are heartily in favor of revolution, seem to be in the grip of terror, fearing the extreme revolutionists, who are advocating the destruction of life and property, and who may soon be able to increase their power for evil.

"The distress at Warsaw arising from lack of food is already very great. From the consulate I witnessed daily the distribution of loaves of bread to hundreds of men and women. Should this charity cease with the oncoming winter many will suffer acutely.

"Even now it is absolutely unsafe to go on the streets either by day or by night. For a long time the newspapers have not dared to refer to the tragedy, but now they flout the censor and publish accounts of these desperate happenings. Warsaw has not yet witnessed an anti-Jewish outbreak, but should such occur it would be indescribably terrible. The poor of Warsaw stand urgently in need of charitable contributions from the outside."

INACTION OF GOVERNMENT

Cause of Present Anarchy—Revolutionists Must Be Attacked at Once.

St. Petersburg, Wednesday, Dec. 14, midnight, via Eydtkuhnen, East Prussia, Dec. 15.—According to reports from Tsarskoe Selo, the reactionary Camarilla, headed by General Count Alexis Ignatieff and M. Stesckinsky, formed to effect the downfall of Count Witte, and to create a dictatorship, has failed, and his majesty is standing firmly by the premier.

M. Menshikoff, the well known writer, who is in close touch with the court, is out with a strong article demanding the inauguration of an aggressive fight against the revolutionists before it is too late.

M. Menshikoff says:

"The revolutionaries, like the French convention, openly send emissaries and do not conceal their intentions. They act in the full light of day, while the government works in secret. The government, it is true, has cannon, but perhaps only for the present while they are not necessary. When they are needed, none can guarantee that they will not be in the possession of the revolutionaries.

"The present anarchy and suspense are due to the inaction of the government, Witte, like Kuropatkin, not only permits the enemy to arm and to concentrate his forces, but to make his dispositions and to choose the moment for giving battle. Such tactics will no more win in Russia than they did in Manchuria."

TROOPS JOIN IN REVOLT

Riga Is Now Being Shelled and Burned.

Berlin, Dec. 18.—A dispatch to the Lokal Anzeiger from Eydtkuhnen, says that the conductor of a morning train from St. Petersburg, asserts the troops at Riga have joined in the revolt, and that the town is being shelled and is burning.

Between St. Petersburg and Wirballen the flames, according to the conductor, could be seen from several places, and were often reflected by the sky.

300 PRUSSIANS KILLED

Revolution at Mintau—Prisoners Liberated.

Berlin, Dec. 18.—A despatch to the Lokal Anzeiger from Koeningsburg, Prussia, today, timed 2:15 p. m., says:

During the street fighting at Mitau, the capital of Courtland 300 persons were killed.

At Lenwarden, in southern Livonia, the revolutionists liberated all the prisoners and shot Assistant District Governor Peterson and M. Maximowitch, his secretary, and threw their bodies into the river.

PISO'S CURE FOR
CURES WHERE ALL ELSE FAILS.
Best Cough Syrup. Tastes Good. Use in time. Sold by druggists.
CONSUMPTION
25 CTS. 25 CTS.

TREASURY IS BANKRUPT

Proletariat Organizations Issue Defi to Government.

St. Petersburg, Friday, Dec. 15.—Via Eydtkuhne, East Prussia, Dec. 16.—The proletariat organizations through the "invisible government" threw a bombshell into the camp of the official government during the night by issuing a manifesto, following the form of a regular imperial document, declaring the bankruptcy of the treasury, ordering the proletariat army everywhere to refuse to pay taxes of any description, to insist on the payment of wages in gold or silver, and to withdraw all their deposits from the savings banks in gold.

Government Squandered Income.

The manifesto is a terrible indictment of the manner in which the bureaucracy has brought the country to financial ruin, asserting that the government has squandered not only the country's income but the proceeds of the foreign loans on railroads, the army and the fleet, leaving the people without schools or roads, yet, it is declared, there is no money to feed the soldiers and everywhere there are insurrections of the beggared and starved troops and sailors. The manifesto even charges the government with using the deposits in the government savings banks to speculate on the bourse and with covering up its chronic deficits in the interest of the immense debt by the proceeds of the foreign loans which are at last exhausted.

To Overthrow Aristocracy.

The rich, it is further declared, have already taken warning and are converting their property into securities and gold and are sending them abroad. The only salvation for the country, according to the manifesto, is the overthrow of the autocracy by a constituent assembly and the "sooner the government falls the better." Therefore the last source of the existance of the old regime—its financial revenue—must be stopped. The document is signed by the members of the workmen's council, the committe of the Pan-Russian union and the central committees of the Social Democrats, Social Revolutionists and Socialists of Poland.

Waves the Red Flag.

This great step of the revolutionaries which throws down the gage of battle to the government was prepared with such secrecy that the authorities were taken off their guard and did not even attempt to prevent its publication in the newspapers. The revolutionary leaders expect it will be followed by reprisals and arrests but all this has been foreseen. The leaders laid their plans deeply before issuing the manifesto. New committees of the various organizations have been elected in the third and fourth degree. If one set of committees is put behind the bars another will take its place and carry on the work. The League of Leagues was not asked to join in the manifesto being regarded with some jealousy by the proletariat organizations which claim to be bearing the brunt of the revolution and to be entitled to the fruits thereof.

The proletariat leaders claim to have absolute knowledge that the government has just issued $125,000,000 in paper money.

Conspiring to Sieze Witte.

Under the provisions of the press law, the editor of every paper which printed the manifesto has rendered himself liable to eight months' imprisonment and $1,500 fine. Now must come the test of the government's power. It develops that among the papers of M. Krustaleff, the president of the executive committee of the workmen's council, seized at the time of his arrest, were documents which furnish evidence of a well planned conspiracy to seize and carry off Premier Witte.

MOSCOW MUTINY FIZZLED

Internal Dissensions in Ranks of Rostoff Regiment.

Moscow, Dec. 18.—The mutiny of the Rostoff grenadier regiment collapsed ignominously tonight owing to internal dissensions and the discontent of a large portion of the soldiers with the program of the Socialist leaders, who wished to force them into open collision with the loyal troops.

After a meeting late yesterday afternoon two battalions and a machine gun detachment deserted. The mutineers sent a deputation to General Plavoffski, saying they had returned to duty, imploring his pardon and volunteering to enter the barracks and seize the revolutionary committee so as to prove their repentance.

The ringleaders endeavored in vain to hold the other two battalions in line, but the defection of their comrades took all heart out of the malcontents.

Upon General Plavoffski's ultimatum that he would open fire unless they immediately surrendered, the remaining mutineers laid down their arms and delivered up Private Schabaroff and other members of the revolutionary committee as well as several civilian agitators who were in the barracks. The officers then resumed command of the regiment.

It is expected that other disaffected regiments will return to duty.

NOT A WIRE IS WORKING

Much Killing and Burning in the Baltic Provinces—Another Imperial Ukase Issued.

St. Petersburg, Wednesday, Dec. 13, via Kydkuknen, East Prussia, Dec. 14.—The government is making little headway in crushing the telegraph strike. The wires of the few lines, over which service had been temporarily restored, are constantly cut and not a single wire is working out of St. Petersburg this morning. At the present rate weeks will elapse before the service can be really restored.

The news from the Baltic provinces today is to the effect that many of the German landlords who have not fled are establishing a network of small forts and are standing a regular siege. There has been much killing and burning.

Inhabitants of the Baltic provinces who are now residing in St. Petersburg, were immensely gratified at the publication yesterday of the imperial ukase promising local self government, which, they say, means the abandonment of the Russification policy begun in 1867, to destroy the unity of the old provinces of Lithunia.

The Nasha Shishn claims to be in possession of information to the effect that at a conference of grand dukes and court officials, held at Tsarskoe-Selo, it was decided that Count Witte had proved a failure, and that the time had arrived for the adoption of firm measures which could be employed with less opposition under a man like Prince Sviatopolk-Mirsky, former minister of the interior.

London, Dec. 14.—The correspondent of the Times at St. Petersburg says a wild story is in circulation there that General Count Alexis Ignatieff has been arrested by order of the emperor for plotting to establish a dictatorship. Inquiry at Count Ignatieff's house, the correspondent says, failed to elicit either confirmation or denial of the story.

20 CHINKS ARE KILLED

Coolie Laborers in Riot at Shanghai, China.

New York, Dec. 18.—A serious riot among coolie laborers resulting in the death of twenty Chinese and injury of several foreigners, occurred at Shanghai, China, today, according to a cablegram received by Fearon, Daniel & Co., of this city, from their Shanghai office.

The cablegram says: "Rioting by coolie classes. Business suspended. Two police stations burned. About 20 Chinese killed, few foreigners injured. Marine volunteers restoring order. Further trouble and fires anticipated tonight."

ROME CABINET RESIGNS

Defeat of Modus Vivendi With Spain the Cause.

Rome, Dec. 18.—The cabinet of Prime Minister Fortis resigned last evening, following a twelve hour debate in the chamber of deputies, and the defeat by the opposition of the commercial modus vivendi with Spain. The sitting was a most exciting one.

It had been understood that the fate of the cabinet would be decided by the vote on the measure, and 450 deputies were present. The visitors' gallery was crowded to overflowing, and the famous tragedian Salvini, who had been unable to gain admittance, was sent to the press tribune with a ticket on which was written "Salvini, Editor of Success."

In the debate, Premier Fortis defended the position of the government, saying that the modus vivendi would protect Italian interests and that the assertions of the opposition that a reduction in the duty on Spanish wines from $4 to $2.40 would open a market to Spanish growers was untrue. In order to avoid a misunderstanding, he said, he would request the chamber for an explicit vote of confidence independent from the vote on the measure in debate, and declared the government was willing to resign if it was defeated on such a vote. The poll on confidence in the government resulted in an affirmative majority of 63, but that on the modus vivendi was lost by a majority of 162.

The ministry then resigned.

TURKEY AFTER RUSSIA

Sultan's Subjects Being Tortured at Tiflis.

Constantinople, Dec. 15.—The Turkish ambassador at St. Petersburg has been instructed to draw Russia's attention to the serious situation at Tiflis, Caucasia, where, it is alleged, the Russian authorities are distributing arms to the Armenians and inciting them to massacre the Tartars.

The Armenians are alleged, with the assistance of the troops, to have taken full advantage of the opportunity, and to have invaded Mussulman residences, including those of Turkish subjects, slaughtering the women and children as well as the men. The appeals of the Turkish consul to the local authorities at Tiflis were unavailing.

GERMANS ERECT FORTRESS

Letts of Livonia Preparing for Wholesale Slaughter.

Stockholm, Dec. 15.—The Dagens Nyketers' correspondent, who returned here today from Riga, says:

The Letts, constituting a majority of the population of Livonia, control the situation there. Their leader, M. Jansohn, editor of the Deenas Lapas, is also the head of the federated revolutionary societies, and has command of everything. Their hatred of the German speaking population, which is unrelenting, is caused by years of oppression on the part of the German nobility.

The peasants around Riga are burning estates and murdering land owners. The Germans of Riga expect a "St. Barthoiomew night," and it is evident that the Letts are preparing for a wholesale slaughter. The central part of Riga can be protected at the bridges if the army is true.

In each block one house has been prepared as a fortress in which to shelter the Germans when the massacre starts. Besides this the householders have established various refuges.

Murders are committed in broad daylight, mostly for revenge, and the police are afraid to interfere. The governor general does not dare command the troops, not knowing whether they will obey. A servant who walked sixty miles to catch a train, brought the details of the horrible event to St. Petersburg. According to the servant, the revolutionaries demanded that Von Rennings give up his sword. On being told that as an officer he could not surrender with honor, the revolutionaries shot him. Subsequently his head was knocked off and his body cut to pieces and fed to dogs.

M. Bompard, the French ambassador, who returned suddenly a fortnight ago, on account of the crisis, has left for Paris, and it is understood that he is the bearer of important information for his government. At the embassy, however, it was stated that the departure of the ambassador had no significance, as he had only gone to finish an interrupted vacation.

Spencer F. Eddy, secretary of the American embassy, left for Paris on the same train. From Paris he will go to the United States on leave of absence. Robert Woods Bliss, the second secretary,, will act as first secretary during the absence of Mr. Eddy.

A message from Moscow received by telephone, says that, according to reports received there, Antonius, Bishop of Volkynia, in southwest Russia, is instructing the priests to calm the agitators in that section of the country. Nevertheless, it is stated that some of the priests are inciting the population against Jews, Poles and students as enemies of the country.

The council of workmen has issued the following address:

"We extend our most sincere sympathy to our brothers, the soldiers and sailors, at Sebastopol and elsewhere, whose blood has been united with ours in the common cause. We call upon the proletariat to organize with redoubled enegy for an armed revolt."

5,000 GIVEN RAISE.

Boston, Dec. 15.—Independent woolen manufacturers in this state, Rhode Island and Connecticut, employing about five thousand operatives, announce that they will follow the action of the American Woolen company, which recently decided to advance the wages of the 30,000 hands in its thirty mills, ten per cent on January 1.

It is expected that other manufacturers, which usually follow the wage schedule of the combine, will adopt the new scale on New Year's day.

MASSACRE AT KISHINEFF.

Estimated Report Received of Number Killed.

New York, Dec. 16.—A letter estimating the number of killed and wounded at Kishineff and the amount of damage done to property in recent Russian riots, was received here today by Arnold Kohn, vice president of the State bank of this city.

"The damage in our city," the letter states, "amounts to from 500,000 to 600,000 roubles (about $250,000 to $300,000), and 30 persons killed and 60 wounded. In our nearest neighborhood, Kalarash and Ismail had to stand the worst, the damage amounting to millions of roubles. In Kalarash 400 families have been robbed, 70 or 80 persons have been killed, and about 100 wounded. Fifty or sixty persons who could not be found are being looked for in order to bury them in the Jewish cemetery. In Ismail there were no casualties."

JEWISH SHOPS ATTACKED.

Lodz, Russian Poland, Dec. 15.—A band of roughs this afternoon attacked Jewish shops and residences in Zielczna street. Fighting ensued and twenty persons were wounded with knives or revolvers. Cossacks were then summoned and they dispersed the rioters by firing a volley, which resulted in the wounding of many more.

WITTE'S LIFE IN DANGER

Premier Heavily Guarded—Resignation Expected.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 18.—An imperial ukase issued today empowers all governors general and municipal authorities, in the event of railway, postal or telegraph communication being interfered with, to proclaim a modified martial law.

Under the ukase military commanders will automatically become governors general. Martial law may be ended only by order of the minister of the interior at St. Petersburg. The provisions already made to enforce compliance with the communication remain in force.

The government has issued a communication stating that it considers the demands and complaints of the railway employes to a large extent justified, and that the minister of ways and communications is therefore drafting measures for the amelioration of these conditions of the service.

In view of the extra expenditure that necessarily will be entailed thereby, the communication says, all these reforms

PRINCE SVIATOPOLK-MIRSKY.
From the Sphere.

cannot be carried out simultaneously, but the minister of ways and communications is devoting his attention to the most pressing among them and the council of ministers has sanctioned the inclusion of $7,500,000 in the 1906 budget estimates to meet the extra expenditure under these measures.

Count Witte's life is considered to be in danger, and the annex of the palace where he is residing is heavily guarded.

A report that Count Witte has resigned is in circulation, but it is false. It may, however, become true at any moment.

A close friend of the premier tells The Associated Press that Count Witte had no faith in the policy of Minister of the Interior Durnovo and only consented to it on the condition that it should be confined to legal means. The same informant says that an official communication declaring a resort to legal measures to be the policy of the government will be issued tomorrow. It is the opinion of many Liberals as well as revolutionists, that "with the first discharge of cannon Count Witte will go."

COSSACK LEADER KILLED

Slayer of General Sakharoff Gives Her Name.

St. Petersburg, Thursday, Dec. 14, via Eydtkuhnen, East Prussia. Dec. 15.—The emperor's nameday, December 19, will be signalized by an important peasant manifesto and the publication of the election law. Dmitri Shipoff, president of the Moscow zemstvo, the most commanding figure among the moderate liberals, who, with M. Guchkoff, a prominent member of the Moscow zemstvo, Alexander Stakovich and others has been consulted in the preparation of the election law, is out with a strong appeal to all who have the welfare of their country at heart, without regard to part affiliation, to unite in the restoration of order, and thus insure peaceful elections and the convocation of the national assembly, which is the only legal place in which to settle political differences.

He further declares that all classes of the population can join in this imperative work except these who do not believe in the following doctrines: First, the development of a constitutional monarchy based on universal suffrage, and second, the reform of Russia by peaceful means through an imperial national assembly.

Under the leadership of the Law and Order party an arrangement is being made to organize a Countre Peasants party in opposition to the Moscow Peasants' congress.

The arrival of General Maximovitch, the successor of the late General Sakharoff, as the emperor's representative at Saratoff, was signalized by an unfortunate incident. The peasants in the district of Balascheff had been "rounded up" by the authorities with the aid of Cossacks in order to persuade them to return the wood and other property which they had stolen, when suddenly the commander of the Cossacks was shot and fell dead from his horse, whereupon the Cossacks fired on the crowd, killing four and wounding ten persons. General Maximovitch, who arrived on the scene immediately afterward, was greatly distressed, and in the name of the emperor promised succor, financially, to the families of the dead and wounded peasants.

The assassin of General Sakharoff has confessed her identity to the extent of admitting that her name is Amelia Popoff. She refuses, however, to furnish any other information to the authorities.

From Tver, Central Russia, comes the news that the estate of Ivan Petrunkevitch, president of the Moscow Agricultural society and a prominent member of the zemstvo, has been sacked and destroyed by the peasants. The Novosti says that Szdt, one of the leaders of the Sebastopol mutineers, has been hanged.

FLEET NEEDED NO MORE

Turkey Formally Surrenders to Demands of Powers.

Constantinople, Dec. 15.—Turkey last night formally surrendered to the demands of the powers, and accepted the scheme providing for the financial control of Macedonia.

A communication to this effect was handed by the porte to the Austro-Hungarian ambassador, Baron Van Calice, and the question which has been the subject of negotiations for eleven months, was closed. The international fleet will promptly be withdrawn.

SALE OF IRVING'S RELICS

Good Prices Paid by Many Curio Hunters.

London, Dec. 14.—The sale of the late Sir Henry Irving's theatrical relics at Christie's today attracted lively attention from curio hunters, and good prices were realized. A malacca cane, which had belonged to Garrick, fetched $210, and a plain gold ring worn by Garrick, was sold for $215. The sword Irving wore as Richard III, went for $155, and a flintlock pistol used in the character of Peter the Great, was knocked down at $155.

BITTER FEELING PREVAILS

Investigation Made of Steinhoff Affair in Brazil.

Berlin, Dec. 16.—The first detailed story concerning the recent seizure of the alleged deserter, Steinhoff, at Itajahy, Brazil, by a party from the German cruiser Panther is contained in a special cable despatch published by the Lokal Anzeiger this morning. The despatch says:

"A seaman named Hassmann deserted the Panther November 15, probably at the instigation of Steinhoff. A party of officers and twenty men from the Panther went ashore about midnight of November 26 to search the Hotel Comercio for Hassamann. The hotelkeeper, however, refused to permit the search, saying it would disturb his guests, but he called Steinhoff.

"The landing party compelled Steinhoff to accompany them to the home of Jacob Zimmerman, where they used threats to compel the latter's son to acompany them. Later they released Zimmerman because he knew nothing of Hassmann's whereabouts.

"It is reported that Steinhoff was beaten by the sailors and taken aboard the cruiser. He has not been seen since. A steam cutter kept up communication between the Panther and the shore until 3:30 o'clock in the morning. The consul was unable to interfere in time to prevent the incident.

"Investigation of the incident has been held. The testimony of witnesses was all on one side, being directed against the Germans, for whom hatred has already prevailed."

WITTE WILL REMAIN FIRM

Operators Cutting Wires—Tieup Is Again Complete—Catholic Clergymen Meet.

St. Petersburg, Tuesday, Dec. 12 (Morning), via Eydtkuhnen, East Prussia, Dec. 13.—The restoration of cable communication with points abroad yesterday lasted only a few hours. Before midnight it was reported that the cable was cut and that dispatches must again be forwarded by courier via the German frontier.

Nevertheless the outlook is clearing. The government is breathing freer with a fighting chance that Premier Witte will yet be able to steer his way through the rocks which beset his path. The threat of a general strike in the immediate future has disappeared and the telegraph strike not being supported is going to pieces in spite of the wild appeals of the union to stand firm.

Wholesale Discharge of Employes.

At Moscow the tieup remains complete, but at many other places communication has been reopened, although in a precarious fashion, as the employes of both telegraph and postal services who were discharged by wholesale for refusing to work are cutting the wires wherever it is possible to do so.

The real leaders of the workmen and other proletariat organizations, realizing fully their weakness and lack of preparation for a decisive struggle, have carried the day over the hotheaded strikers and have easily convinced the majority that it would be an irretrievable blunder to prostitute what they regard as the supreme instrument for forging a free nation by using it for a minor issue like redressing the grievance of private individuals.

To Continue Organization.

In registering this decision they placed themselves on record, "To continue the organization and equipment of the fighting legions which the old president, Krustaleff, began," thus virtually furnishing the government with evidence confirming its charges that articles 102 and 126 of the criminal code prohibiting participation in associations, the object of which is armed revolt and the punishment for which is death, have been violated by the strikers' head organization.

It is likely, however, that the government in order to discount attempts to heroize M. Krustaleff will simply charge him with the misappropriation of the funds of the workmen in using them in founding a Socialist paper, which the government claims can be substantiated.

Workmen and Witte.

The Workmen's council yesterday sent a demand to Count Witte for the release of M. Krustaleff. Later the workmen's delegates called on Procurator Kamishansky and demanded his release, but the procurator refused bluntly, saying that the case must be tried in court. To this the spokesman of the delegation replied:

"Then we will declare a general strike."

"I will not release him if the whole world strikes," answered the procurator.

M. Krustaleff is understood to be imprisoned in the St. Peter and St. Paul fortress in order, it is explained, to prevent any possible attempt at rescue, which would only lead to bloodshed. The disappearance of the danger of a general strike seems to insure the government a certain period in which to vindicate itself and demonstrate that it is striving to establish a new order of things, and if, as its friends hope, it will be able to show this by deeds, it will cut away public sympathy from the proletariat and place the workmen's organizations, when the time comes for a strike, in the attitude of deliberately provoking a struggle to overthrow the government and establish a democratic republic.

Arrests Will Follow.

The members of Count Witte's cabinet distinctly deny that the government has entered on the path of reaction, but they say that the present state of anarchy cannot go on. People amenable to the laws will be arrested and tried by the court.

"If the government really enters on the path of reaction," said one of the ministers today, "it must end in a dictatorship, and you may be sure that at the first evidence of this Witte will step down and out."

Count Witte takes the ground that the ministry is only a stop gap to transfer the power into the hands of the national assembly, and therefore he will not undertake to bind the country by temporary laws or a policy which the representatives of the nation should decide for themselves.

Demand Autonomy for Poland.

Warsaw, Russian Poland, Dec. 13.—A meeting of 417 Catholic clergymen of Russian Poland, after ten hours' session during the night, resolved this morning to demand autonomy for Poland with its own parliament, general secret ballot, the reinstatement of the Polish language in government offices, the abolition of capital punishment and full amnesty for political prisoners. The Official Gazette this morning published a list of 293 post and telegraph clerks who have been dismissed for striking.

400 RUSSIANS KILLED

Chinese Quarters in Ruins as Result of Harbin Mutiny.

London, Dec. 13. — The Daily Telegraph prints the concluding part of the dispatch from Moji, Japan, begun Monday, giving detailed accounts by refugees of the alleged sacking and burning of Harbin, Manchuria, by mutinous Russians. It says the mutineers set fire to and pillaged houses in every direction and seized all the weapons and ammunition they were able to lay their hands on. When dawn came, according to these accounts, all the mutineers crept to hiding places. Daylight revealed the Chinese quarter in ruins and 400 Russians citizens lying dead or wounded in the streets of Harbin. The authorities, the accounts say, really assisted the mutineers in sacking the remnants of the city, while pretending that they were making efforts to suppress the mutiny.

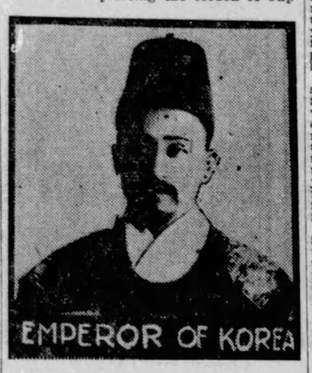
EMPEROR MAKES A KICK

Special Messenger in Washington Receives Cablegram.

Washington, Dec. 13.—Homer B. Hulbert, the special messenger from the emperor of Korea, is in receipt of a cablegram from Korea, in which the emperor declares that the agreement between Korea and Japan is null and void because it was obtained by force. He also declares that he will never sign this agreement in its present form, and that the disturbances which attended the "outrage" of November 17 are likely to occur again.

Concerning the cablegram from the emperor of Korea, Mr. Hulbert said:

"This is the first genuine word that has been received from Korea giving the real attitude of that government toward the barbarous act of the Japanese. For several weeks the emperor was practically in confinement, and Japan gave out the false statement that an amicable agreement had been signed. This is now proved to be untrue. The agreement was made under duress and at the point of the sword, but the emperor has at last succeeded in piercing the cordon of Japanese, and getting information to the outer world.



EMPEROR OF KOREA

"As long as my mission to America is no longer a secret, I may add that the emperor, anticipating some such act of bad faith on the part of Japan, tried, through me, to forestall it by lodging an appeal with President Roosevelt. The object of my coming was surmised, and the coup in Seoul was hastened so that it occurred on the very day of my arrival in Washington.

"The emperor felt certain that if President Roosevelt could be made aware of his sentiments, the American government would hesitate and ask a few questions before accepting Japan's statements alone. The authorities in Washington were almost immediately notified that this petition was here, but no arrangements were made for its reception until after Japan's statement was accepted and acted upon.

"The object of this cablegram is to disavow any acquiescence in the socalled agreement, and incidentally to call attention to that clause of the treaty between America and Korea in which the United States definitely promises to use its good offices in case Korea is oppressed or wronged.

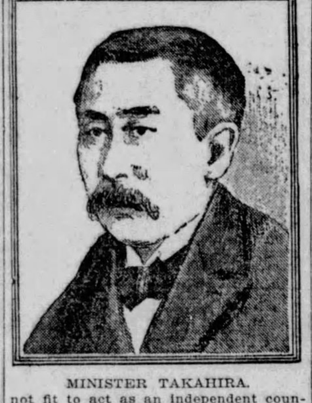
"The United States was in full treaty relations with Korea up to the time when upon the representations of Japan alone, and apparently without consulting Korea, this government took the lead in cutting off direct diplomatic relations with Korea."

UNFIT TO GOVERN SELF

apan Will Insist on Watching Over Korea.

San Francisco, Dec. 15.—That Japan will insist on maintaining a protectorate over Korea in spite of any efforts to oust her from that position, is the declaration of Kogora Takahira, the Japanese minister to the United States, who arrived in San Francisco last evening, on his way to Japan.

Minister Takahira was very emphatic in his statement that Korea was



MINISTER TAKAHIRA.

not fit to act as an independent country, and that until it was so strengthened and stable that its policy could not be swayed by every breeze of popular opinion, it will remain practically a subject country of Japan.

ARE SEEKING CLEMENCY

Friends of Shepard Want Imprisonment Annulled.

Paris, Dec. 15.—Application for executive clemency has been submitted to the foreign office in behalf of Elliott F. Shepard, of New York, who was sentenced October 26 to three months' imprisonment and $120 fine and to pay $4,000 damages to the parents of Madeleine Marduel, who was killed by Mr. Shepard's automobile, April 24.

The purpose of the application is to have a fine substituted for the imprisonment. Premier Rouvier has referred the application to the ministry of justice.

ARMY REGARDED UNSAFE

Secret Provisional Government Formed in Riga.

Berlin, Dec. 13.—A dispatch to Lokal Anzeiger from St. Petersburg, dated Tuesday, December 12, via Edytkuhnen, says that a message from Riga announces that the Lithuanians are masters of the city, that they have formed a secret provisional government that officers do not dare to go on the streets in uniform and that the army is regarded by the Russian authorities as unsafe.

TO DISSOLVE PARLIAMENT

First Meeting of Campbell-Bannerman Cabinet Held.

London, Dec. 14.—The Campbell-Bannerman cabinet held its first meeting at Downing street at noon today to discuss the immediate program of the government and particularly to set a date in January for the dissolution of parliament, preparatory to a general election. There is reason to believe that January 8 was the date selected.

VALUE IS $150,000,000

Decrease in Quantity of Sugar Imported, but Prices Higher.

Washington, Dec. 15.—The bureau of statistics of the department of commerce and labor has issued the following on sugar importation for the past year:

The sugar brought into the United States in the year about to end will exceed 150 million dollars in value. More than 50 million dollars' worth of this comes from our own islands of Hawaii, Porto Rico and the Philippine Islands, and more than 100 million dollars' worth from foreign countries. The total value of sugar brought into the country in the year 1905 will by far exceed that of any preceding year.

In the ten months ending with October, the total value of sugar brought into the country was 144 million dollars, and as the figures for the month of October alone exceed 8 million dollars it is quite apparent that the additions made in the months of November and December will carry it far past the 150 million dollar line. Never before the year 1880 had the value of sugar imported reached as much as 100 million dollars.

In the fiscal year 1891 it was 105 millions, and slowly increased until the fiscal year 1894 it was 127 millions. Then the total fell again below 100 millions, and so remained until the fiscal year 1900 when the total was again 100 millions, but in no year has it reached anything like the figure which the present calendar year promises as the total value of sugar brought into the country.

Prior to 1900 all sugar coming in was stated under the general head of imports. Since 1900 the sugar coming from the Hawaiian Islands and Porto Rico is not classed as an import, but is shown separately in the figures of the bureau of statistics. The figures of the bureau of statistics for the ten months ending with October, 1905 (the latest figures on this subject), show the value of sugar imported from foreign countries to be $94,717,673; from the Hawaiian Islands, $38,816,244, and from Porto Rico, $13,083,084.

From the Philippines the value of sugar imported in the ten months in question was $2,216,249, but this figure of sugar from the Philippines is included in the statement of imports above cited, since the Philippine islands are not at the present time considered a customs district of the United States, and, therefore, the merchandise received from them is classed by the bureau of statistics as an import of foreign merchandise.

The value of all sugar imported into the United States in the ten months ending with October, 1905, was $94,717,673, against $75,425,307 in the same months of 1904, and $55,186,829 in the same months of 1903. The value of sugar imported into the United States from Cuba was $87,730,202, against $54,664,303 in the corresponding months of 1904, and $36,896,432 in the corresponding months of 1903; and the quantity imported from Cuba, 2,128,767,028 pounds in the ten months ending with October, 1905, as against 2,551,137,801 pounds in the same months of 1904, and 1,969,655,092 pounds in the same months of 1903.

This remarkable record which the year 1905 will present of more than 150 million dollars' worth of sugar brought into the United States is due rather to increased prices than to any increase in quantity. The total quantity of sugar brought in from foreign countries, and from Hawaii and Porto Rico combined, is, in the ten months ending with October, 1905, 4,385,239,379 pounds, and in the ten months ending with October, 1904, was 4,643,808,298 pounds.

Thus the actual quantity of sugar brought into the country in the year about to end will be something less than that of last year, while the valuation, which is based upon the selling price at the ports from which it is shipped to the United States, will be more than 40 million dollars in excess of the valuation of sugar brought in during last year.

PEABODY IS SELECTED

For the Presidency of Mutual Life Insurance Company.

New York, Dec. 13.—Charles A. Peabody was elected president of the Mutual Life Insurance company at a meeting of the board of trustees today. Mr. Peabody's election was unanimous.

Mr. Peabody's salary was fixed at $50,000 a year.

His predecessor, Richard McCurdy, received $150,000 a year. Mr. Peabody will take office on January 1, when he will relieve Frederick Cromwell, temporary president.

Mr. Peabody is a lawyer and is the American representative of Wm. Waldorf Astor. He is a director in several banks and other corporations, among them the Illinois Central Railroad company.

COUNTERFEITERS IN ORIENT

Spurious American Bills Freely Circulated.

Hawaii, Dec. 14.—The counterfeiting investigation started here when the transport Sherman was in port is going on in four widely separated parts of the world. The authorities are working in Honolulu, San Francisco, Nagasaki and Manila. The result is not unlikely to be an important exposure of making of bad American money in the Orient, in which clever Japanese artists may play a large part.

No money is easier to pass in the Orient than American, for every paper certificate from Washington is known to be just as good as gold itself, and the scheme is thought to have been to use the money in cities like Nagasaki, where a more or less imperfect bill is easier to pass than it would be here or in America. The attempt to pass a bill here was very likely due to an emergency in the finances of a soldier, but it has probably exposed the whole scheme.

A careful examination of the counterfeit ten dollar bill now in the possession of District Attorney Breckons shows that it was made by hand, apparently carefully drawn with pen and ink. This is the bill which was offered at Spreckels bank while the transport Sherman was in port. Under the miscroscope it appears as a a. m., maximum 38°, minimum 19°.

Only this one bill has come into the possession of the authorities here, and it is thought to be the only one in town. There was one other attempt to pass a bill, it is believed, at the Young hotel. A soldier from the transport offered a bill at the bar, handing it to the barkeeper folded up in such manner as to hide some portions. As he saw the barkeeper opening it up and examining it he quickly reached for it and handed out some silver.

A large sum of the money was passed in Nagasaki when the Sherman was there on her way here. Japanese were easily imposed on by the bogus bills, and they were "stuck" to the amount of $600 or $700.

HARD ON THE BREWERS

Iowa Court Makes Ruling on C. O. D. Liquor Question.

Des Moines, Ia., Dec. 14.—It is illegal to ship liquor into Iowa C. O. D., and the purchasers can afterwards recover the money they paid for the liquor.

This ruling is embodied in a decision made by the Iowa supreme court today in the case of John Hamilton versus a brewing company of Milwaukee. The court holds that the brewery must return $5,000 paid for beer shipped to Hamilton in Lynn county, C. O. D., the court holding this a violation of the mulct law.

RIGHT SIDE PARALYZED

Another Midshipman Laid Up —Denies Hazing Was Cause.

Annapolis, Md., Dec. 14.—Midshipman Henry G. Cooper, Jr., of Oxford, N. C., whose right side and vocal organs became suddenly paralyzed in the class room yesterday, is in the academy hospital under treatment.

He persists in the statement that he was not hazed, but the academy authorities are investigating the case. So far no evidence has been adduced to show that Cooper was hazed.

DEMANDS TO BE MADE

Operators to Be Presented With an Agreement for Sanction—Mitchell Active.

Shamokin, Pa., Dec. 14.—The anthracite coal miners' convention began its sessions here today. About 700 deelgates were present when John Mitchell, president of the United Mine Workers of America, called the convention to order.

This convention is regarded as more important than any held since Mitchell came into the hard coal field in 1900, with the avowed purpose of duplicating the organization in western Pennsylvania and the western states which held contracts with the bituminous coal operators.

It is known that President Mitchell is desirous of having the convention adjourn by Saturday night. The delegates may take a longer time, however, to formulate the requests or demands to be made upon the operators as a substitute for the strike commission's award, which will expire with the month of March.

The miners' leaders plan, through the

convention, to request a conference of the operators. This will be made in the form of a resolution, and the following demands, it is said, will be made if the conference is granted:

A party agreement, better known as recognition of the union.

An eight-hour workday.

An increase in pay to all classes of employes of at least 10 per cent, and possibly 20 per cent, based on the wages in effect April 1, 1902.

This would mean that the miners would receive about the same as under the present award. For some unskilled employes it would mean a slight increase.

Louis N. Hammerling, who acted as Mr. Mitchell's confidential representative during the strike of 1902, left here for Washington today, after spending the night with the miners' chief and other union representatives. He will return tomorrow and report to President Mitchell before the convention has announced any demands. Mr. Hammerling may see

It is
ROYAL
Baking Powder
that makes the
Delicious Biscuit, Griddle Cake and Doughnut

BOSTON DEMOCRATS WIN

Vote Unusually Heavy in the Four-Cornered Fight.

Boston, Dec. 13.—The Democrats were victorious in Boston yesterday, electing former Congressman John F. Fitzgerald mayor over three other candidates. Fitzgerald's plurality over his nearest competitor, Louis A. Frothingham, Republican, speaker of the Massachusetts house of representatives, was 8,380.

The vote for mayor follows: Fitzgerald (Dem.), 44,316; Louis A. Frothingham (Rep.), 35,936; Henry S. Dewey (Ind. Rep.), 11,637; James A. Watson (Citizen and Ind. Dem.), 515.

The vote was unusually heavy for a city election, more than 92,000 votes being cast out of a total registration of 114,000. Two years ago Patrick A. Collins (Dem.), was re-elected by a plurality of more than 30,000. In the recent state election the Democratic gubernatorial candidate carried the city by a plurality of approximately 16,000.

DEPOSITORS PROTECTED

National, Savings and Trust Banks in Failure.

Chicago, Dec. 18.—The Chicago National bank, the Home Savings bank and the Equitable Trust company have failed. Depositors are to be protected in full by banks of the Chicago Clearing House association. The cause is said to be the involving of their assets in the railway and coal properties of the president of the Chicago National bank.

The failure was announced at 3:30 o'clock this morning by representatives of the Chicago Clearing House association after a session lasting eighteen hours. James B. Forgan, president of the First National bank, as head of the clearing house committee of the Chicago Associated Banks, gave forth the statement.

STANDING ARMY OF LABORERS.

Chicago, Dec. 15.—The Chicago Employers' association at a meeting yesterday afternoon formulated plans for the establishment of a standing army of laborers, both skilled and unskilled, and representing every branch of trade, to be prepared to go to any city in the United States to fill the places of strikers when necessary.

The scope of the association will be extended so as to include every city in the United States, with a population of 50,000 or more. Employment bureaus will be maintained in all cities of this class, where nonunion men can register.

WARSHIPS ASSEMBLING

Rowdies Fill the Streets of Shanghai.

Shanghai, Dec. 19.—Armed guards and patrols are maintained to cope with a possible renewal of the disturbances. The streets are filled with rowdies. The shops are open but looting is greatly feared.

The United States cruiser Baltimore will land a force today and the British cruiser Diadem is sending 500 men ashore. Other warships are expected, and it is reported that German troops are coming here from Kiaochau.

The Chinese newspapers say the rowdies proposed to take advantage of the mixed court dispute to attack and loot the foreign settlement.

PEABODY WRITES STOCKHOLDERS

Asks for Fair Trial for Himself and Trustees.

New York, Dec. 14.—Charles A. Peabody, the newly elected president of the Mutual Life Insurance company, last night issued the following statement addressed to the policyholders of that company:

"I have been appointed to the presidency of the Mutual Life company of New York, and have accepted the position. I desire to communicate direct with the policyholders of the company, for whose benefit a great trust is being administered.

"No private interest controls this company and I enter upon the discharge of my duties as the representative solely of the policyholders, chosen unanimously by their elected representatives, the board of trustees.

"The new administration stands pledged to economy, to lawful methods and to reform of existing abuses. Much has already been accomplished to carry out these pledges and all will be done that is necessary to fully redeem them. The board of trustees is harmonious and united upon these matters.

"The company possesses financial resources far beyond its liabilities. Lapse and surrender of policies mean abandonment of accumulations and the savings of years of thrift. Policyholders are urged to continue their policies in the company and not to withdraw from it.

"I ask of my constituents that they will give me and the board of trustees a fair trial, and judge us not in advance, but by results accomplished. I take the office conferred upon me with a full sense of the sacred nature of its responsibilities and of the obligations I owe to those who entrust to the officers and trustees of this company a provision for widowhood and orphanage."

POTTERS TALK ON RATES

To Ask Congress for Relief From Railroad Injustice.

Washington, Dec. 14.—At a meeting of the United States Potters' association here yesterday, the question of the regulation of railway rates occupied much of the time. The whole matter was finally referred to a committee of three, of which William M. Burgess, of Trenton, N. J., the chairman of the executive committee, is chairman, with instructions to prepare a resolution indicating the attitude of the association on this subject. This resolution will call attention to the importance to the manufacturing potters of the country of equitable railway rates, as a necessity to the conduct of their business, and will urge representatives in congress from districts where there are pottery interests to use their best efforts to secure remedies for alleged discrimination through legislation providing for a proper regulation of rates.

A determination was reached to establish a permanent exhibit of the best specimens of the pottery exhibits of the country at Trenton, N. J., and East Liverpool, Ohio. This was agreed upon as a result of a recommendation of the historical committee and with the desire to present to the American people evidences of the progress of the potters' art in the United States.

The convention finally adjourned, after re-electing the present officers for the ensuing year. During the afternoon the delegates were received by the President. He extended to each of them a cordial personal greeting. Last night the annual banquet of the association was held, at which the guests included a number of senators and representatives in congress. Among the latter were Senators Clapp, Hemenway, Scott, Hopkins and Dick, and Representatives Cannon, Payne, Reynolds, Grosvenor, Kennedy, of Ohio; Hepburn, Watson, Tawney, Dalzell, Babcock, Dovener, Burton, McCleary, Hill, of Connecticut, and Acheson.

ROOSEVELT DRAWS A LINE

Old Friend Turned Down--Too Familiar With Gamblers.

El Paso, Texas, Dec. 15.—P. F. Garrett, an old time western peace officer, noted as the slayer of "Billie the Kid," when sheriff of Lincoln county, New Mexico, and for years a personal friend of President Roosevelt, has been refused reappointment as custom's collector at El Paso, which position he has filled for four years.

During the rough riders' reunion at San Antonia the President wired Garrett to come down and dine with him. Garrett went, taking with him Tom Powers, proprietor of the Coney Island saloon and gambling house, and the two sat at the table with the President. There was great indignation over that in El Paso. When Garrett left for Washington to look after his reappointment, his time expiring January 1, Powers again accompanied him, and is now in Washington with him.

Garrett called on the President yesterday and was told: "I cannot again appoint you."

Indians May Go to Congress

GENERAL PLEASANT PORTER

Muskogee, I. T., Dec. 14.—With the admission of Indian Territory and Oklahoma as one state may come the appearance in congress of the native American Indian as a law maker. By an act of congress tribal relations will end on the 4th of March, and Indians will become voters under the flag. They will be privileged for the first time in the history of the nation an Indian may stand in congress elected to represent his people.

There will be two ends to the new state and a senator from each end. There will be countless candidates, for a peculiar feature of a new country is the number of men who think themselves competent to hold any office.

The one figure for United States senator from the Indian Territory end of the new state is General Pleasant Porter, chief of the Creek Nation. General Porter is a Democrat and the new state will be Democratic.

As there are 6,000 negro votes in Indian Territory the control of this army of colored voters will decide the destiny of any political question. Many of these negro voters are nominally Republican, but they are members of the Creek tribe, and have a sincere regard for their chief.

General Porter is probably the only Democrat who could command the negro vote of Indian Territory as well as the Democratic white and Indian vote.

General Porter is not a stranger in Washington, but as a United States senator he would occupy a unique and spectacular position. He is a man of wealth and sixty-five years old. It is probable that it would satisfy all the pride in his nature if he can be sent as a senator from his own country.

THE COURT HAS REFUSED

To Hear Extension of Office Question at This Term.

Columbus, O., Dec. 19.—The question of the right of incumbents in office to an extension of term, by virtue of Article 17 of the state constitution, which was amended at the last election so as to provide for biennial elections, was raised in supreme court this morning by Attorney J. Y. Todd, of Toledo.

Addressing the court, Attorney Todd said: "I appear to make application for leave to file a quo warranto proceeding under section 6769. This case is entitled Charles H. Barks against William H. Searles. The contention of the relator is that he is a justice of the peace in Adams township, Lucas county, and that the defendant has usurped his office. Searles claims that he was elected to succeed Barks on November 7, 1905. The relator raises the question whether the adoption of the amendment to article 17, at the last election, does not annul the election, and provide for the retention of office by the incumbents until the legislature acts. This petition not only raises the question of the validity of the election of township officers, but of state and county officers also. I ask that a time be fixed for hearing, and that the defendant be notified."

Later in the day the supreme court denied the application.

One of the judges told Mr. Todd that it was too late to take it up this year. The court will adjourn this week for the holiday vacation.

"In my judgment," said Mr. Todd, after the court had denied his application, "all further agitation of this matter will be futile."

Secretary of State Laylin says he regrets the refusal of the court to take the case, as he is deluged with letters from all parts of the state asking for construction of the law. "But the situation would be chaotic," said Mr. Laylin, "if after the new officials have taken office, the court should hold that the old officials are entitled to extension of terms." Mr. Laylin thinks the question will yet get into the courts.

ANNUAL MAIL DISPATCHED

Carrier Starts With 300 Pounds for Arctic Circle Points.

Victoria, B. C., Dec. 19.—The annual mail for arctic circle points within the Dominion of Canada has just been dispatched via Edmonton, the fact of its departure directing attention to incidental circumstances which are in themselves curious and which furnish food for reflection.

Letters only are carried, and these are limited to one ounce in weight, as the entire bulk of the packet when it leaves Edmonton must come within three hundred pounds. Registered letters are given the preference, although they are not assured delivery if late, and other letters are taken in order of the dates of mailing.

The route is not only the longest mail circuit in the world, but far and away the most desolate and most difficult. For the two-cent engraving of King Edward which decorates the corner of the envelope, the letter will be carried in some cases from the extremes of South Africa, Australia or India, and it will most probably be necessary to have the carriers go 500 or 600 miles into a frozen, forbidding wilderness, the government perforce expending upon the redemption of the contract of the stamp very many thousand times what it receives, while the carrier must fight singlehanded with savage nature, his life and the safety of the precious packet intrusted to him being at all times in the hazzard.

But it is all in the day's work and the world buys its postage stamps and gives the matter no further thought.

MUST SPEAK ENGLISH

Naturalization Committee Has Made Its Report.

Washington, Dec. 19.—The report of the naturalization committee composed of Milton D. Purdy, chairman, assistant to the attorney general; Gaillard Hunt, chief of the passport bureau of the state department, and Richard K. Campbell, law officer of the bureau of immigration, department of commerce and labor, to which reference was made in the President's message, makes important recommendations for improving the conditions now surrounding naturalization.

The committee declared that the general principles of the naturalization law are correct, but recommends that no one be admitted to citizenship who does not intend to reside permanently in the United States, and that no one be admitted who does not know the English language.

To prevent naturalization for political purposes, it is recommended that a uniform fee of at least seven dollars be prescribed by law, and that no naturalizations be permitted for at least thirty days next preceding a presidential or congressional election.

The commission also recommends that the declarations of intention which can now be made before any clerk of a court at least two years before naturalization be entirely abolished and the substitution in its place of a petition for naturalization before the clerk of the same court, in which the naturalization is to take place, at least three months before the naturalization proceedings are heard, and that a duplicate of this petition be sent to the bureau of naturalization, which the committee recommends shall be established in Washington.

In considering the action of the courts under existing conditions, the committee gives evidence which it says proves that many have been corrupt and many more negligent in conferring citizenships, and that this condition has prevailed ever since the naturalization laws went into effect. As a preventive the committee recommended that those cities where federal courts sit almost continuously, no state courts shall entertain applications for citizenship, and that in smaller places only one specified state court shall have jurisdiction.

The bureau of naturalization, which it is recommended shall be established in the department of commerce and labor, is to have full jurisdiction of the enforcement of the act, and a part of the naturalization fees is to be turned into the treasury, thus producing a revenue which it is stated will be far in excess of the cost of the federal machinery recommended.

Separate reports by a majority and the minority of the commission are submitted on the subject of the registration of old certificates of naturalization and on the question of the naturalization of minor children by the naturalization of their parents.

PREACHER-LAMPLIGHTER

Man of the Cloth Composes Sermons as He Plods Along.

Southhold, L. I., Dec. 19.—Composing his sermons as he plods along the streets, the Rev. James Murray, of this village, lights and extinguishes the lamps nightly for wages of $25 a month.

Some of the brothers and sisters of the Universalist church, of which he is pastor, do not feel that it is dignified and proper for a man of the "cloth" to be so employed. The Rev. Mr. Murray's friends, however, say that the $25 a month comes in very handy in buying the "cloth" and other things necessary to his position.

Southhold goes to bed early, and the preacher-lamplighter turns out the acetylene at 11 o'clock every night. The job is a hard one, Lester Albertson, the preacher's predecessor, giving it up after a few weeks. The Rev. Mr. Murray's friends say that his tour over the village twice a night brings him in touch with his congregation and gives him greater opportunities to pursue the work of his sacred calling.

SECRETARY ROOT FIGURING

Conference Is Held Concerning German Tariff.

Washington, Dec. 19.—Secretary Root is in conference with Secretary Shaw and some of the customs officers of the treasury endeavoring to ascertain how far he can go toward proposing the basis of feasible modus vivendi to the German government.

At the expiration of seventy-one days the present trading relations with Germany will terminate according to the terms of the denunciation already given, unless either a new treaty can be arranged or a modus vivendi provided.

WORLD'S CROP LARGE.

Cites Figures to Sustain the Contention.

Broomhall, at Liverpool, says crops are generally larger than those of a year ago and cites figures. Rye and oats are smaller.

World's crops in millions:	1905.	1904.	1903.	1902.
Wheat, qrs., 480 lbs...	399	368	404	398
Rye, qrs., 480 lbs.....	168	204	193	190
Total wheat and rye— qrs., 480 lbs.....	567	572	597	588
Maize, qrs., 480 lbs....	402	372	353	372
Oats, qrh., 304 lbs....	363	374	358	396
Barley, qrs., 400 lbs..	126	127	133	128
Total three feeding stuffs—qrs., 480 lbs..	737	715	690	628
Grand total, 5 crops— qrs., 480 lbs.....	1,304	1,287	1,287	1,216

IOWA FARMERS ARE RICH

Only One-Third of Farm Population Are Renters.

Eldora, Iowa, Dec. 19.—Two-thirds of the farms of the state of Iowa are occupied by owners; one-third are conducted by renters. The portion of the state census which deals with population has been printed, and the other tables have been sent to the printer. The book of about 800 pages will be ready for issuance in a few weeks. The sum of $15,000 was appropriated for the work, and $5,000 was borrowed by the consent of the appropriation committees of the two houses.

The agricultural schedules show the following figures:

Number of farms owned by occupants	138,224
Acres owned	19,882,416
Value of land	$916,204,235
Value of buildings	$218,813,327
Value of farm implements	$27,740,339
Acres of land rented by owners	2,044,141
Farms occupied by renters	70,939
Acres rented	11,204,448
Land value	$507,902,214
Value of buildings	$84,357,645
Value of implements	$13,492,038
Number of farms in Iowa	209,163
Number of acres	33,128,109
Value of land	$303,750,975
Value of implements	$41,232,368
Total value	$1,829,039,792

Portland, Ore.—Fire destroyed the wholesale grocery of Wadhams & Kerr Bros., yesterday afternoon, causing a loss of $100,000. Four firemen were seriously injured.

Watertown, N. Y.—The American Talc mill, near here, was destroyed by fire yesterday afternoon. The loss is $65,000. The plant was owned by the Union Talc company of New York.

Amsterdam, N. Y.—Four school children were drowned early last night while skating on Kellog's pond in this city.

SOLDIERS ARE POWERLESS

Insurgents Plunder, Burn and Capture at Livonia.

Dorpat, Province of Livonia, Dec. 19.—The southern part of Livonia and the greater part of Courtland are completely in possession of the insurgents. The military are still much too feeble to cope with the situation. The region between Riga and Wenden is a wilderness. The buildings on all the estates have been burned and plundered. The heavens to the south of Dorpat last night reflected the glare of the fires.

A number of German barons and their families are held prisoners by the insurgents.

Details have been received here of a regular battle at Walck between the members of a company of dragoons, who were escorting a wagon train containing twenty German families, and an armed band of 4,000 Letts, near Roemershof.

The expedition was trying to escape to the southward, but the ammunition of the dragoons, as the result of constant skirmishes, was running low, and it was decided to reach Riga.

When at a point where the roads crossed, the expedition ran into a Lett camp, which was strongly barricaded. The Letts opened fire, whereupon the dragoons charged, but were repulsed. The Letts then took the offensive, pressing on the retreating caravan. The ammunition of the dragoons becoming exhausted, they surrendered with their charges on the understanding that they would give up their guns but would be allowed to retain their revolvers.

Another band, however, arrived, and insisted that the capture was made in neutral territory. They then carried off the captives to Lennawarden castle, where they held a regular orgie over their victims.

OPPOSITION TO TARIFF PIG-HEADED SELFISHNESS.

Washington, Dec. 19.—"I don't object to intelligent selfishness, but I do object to pigheaded selfishness, and that is what this opposition to a reduction in the Philippine tariff seems to me."

In these words Governor Luke E. Wright, of the Philippines, has summarized the arguments of the antitariff reduction of the sugar and tobacco interests before the ways and means committee of the house. Secretary Taft applauded the argument.

Governor Wright said he noticed a disposition to throw off the Filipinos and get rid of them in the easiest way possible, to treat them as if they were foreigners. This is not the sentiment of Americans.

PLEASANT YEAR IN SIGHT

Spangler Issues Prophecies for the Year 1906.

New York, Dec. 19.—Here are Spangler's prophecies for 1906:

The dissolution of Russia.

The overthrow of Turkey.

The assassination of the czar of Russia.

The assassination of the sultan of Turkey.

The prevention of three wars by President Roosevelt.

A protracted race war in the south.

Destructive spring floods in the United States.

A destructive eruption of Mount Vesuvius.

The activity of Mont Pelee and Popocatepetl.

Volcanic eruptions in all parts of the world.

The eruption of many volcanoes now supposed to be extinct.

Great loss of life at sea by storms.

Destruction of two western cities by cyclones.

Earthquakes in all parts of the world.

Destructive earthquakes in California and the Philippines.

Rebellion in Spain.

Great disturbances all over Europe.

FOR A STATUE OF HANNA

Plaster Model by St. Gaudens Has Been Completed.

Cleveland, O., Dec. 19.—A plaster of paris model of the statue of the late Senator M. A. Hanna has been completed by Augustus St. Gaudens, the sculptor. Members of the Hanna family have seen the mould several times, as have members of the committee appointed to see that the statue is completed; and the money to pay for it raised. This money practically has been raised, the final cost of the work being estimated at about $65,000. The statue is to be placed in Cleveland.

THE WEEK IN CONGRESS

Washington, Dec. 13.—Senate.—In the senate today Mr. Allison presented the report of the committee on appropriations on the Panama canal bill, giving notice that he would call it up for consideration tomorrow. A communication from Secretary Shaw saying that only a few small campaign contributions had been made by national banks was read. At 12:45 p. m. the senate went into executive session, and at 1:25 adjourned.

House.—A controversy over committee appointments in which Mr. Lamar (Fla.) and Mr. Shackleford (Mo.) bitterly attacked Mr. Williams (Miss.) took up nearly all the time in the house today. The subject under discussion was the committee distribution of the annual message of the President, which was not completed when the house adjourned.

Washington, Dec. 14.—Senate.—The senate today discussed the Panama canal emergency appropriation bill, but did not come to a vote. A separate bill regulating the issuance of bonds for the canal and placing them on the same basis as other government bonds was passed without debate. A pure food bill was reported by Mr. Heyburn. Mr. Elkins made a statement from the committee on interstate commerce expressing the opinion that the committee would report a rate bill within a reasonable time. At 4:57 p. m. the senate adjourned.

House.—Debate on the recommendation in the President's annual message regarding insurance regulation occupied the house again today without a conclusion. The pending resolution refers the question to the ways and means committee, and in its defense Mr. Payne argued that the only way congress could control insurance was through the taxing power. After a number of long speeches the house adjourned.

Washington, Dec. 15.—Senate—The senate adopted a resolution of Mr. Stone requesting the postmaster-general for information as to whether college periodicals are admitted to the mails as second-class matter and whether a preference is shown some such periodicals over other similar publications. Mr. Gallinger reported the merchant marine bill. The Panama canal bill was laid before the senate and Mr. Bacon presented an amendment requiring quarterly reports giving lists of officers and employes of the commission above the grades of laborer and the salaries paid them. After debate by Messrs. Tillman, Spooner, Money, Hale, Culberson and Allison an agreement for a vote tomorrow was reached and the senate adjourned.

House—The house today devoted nearly all of the session to a lively debate on the possibilities of controlling insurance companies. Mr. Sherley (Ky.) stood for the doctrine of states' rights and Mr. Cockran (N. Y.) attacked the officers of the big life companies. A message was sent to the senate returning its bill regarding canal bonds as a usurpation of the constitutional right of the house to originate revenue legislation. The hazing incidents at Annapolis came up for much criticism. No conclusion was reached regarding the insurance matter and the debate will proceed tomorrow.

Washington, Dec. 16.—Senate — The emergency bill appropriating $11,000,000 for the Panama canal was passed by the senate today, after a debate which practically excluded all other business. A substitute offered by Mr. Hale for Mr. Bacon's amendment, specifically requiring that congress shall be supplied with regular estimates of all salaries except those paid to laborers, was accepted. Mr. Hale made the authorized announcement that Secretary Bishop's duties as press agent would be abolished.

House—The house indulged itself again today to the extent of four hours in an academic discussion of federal control of insurance. The holiday recess was fixed from December 21 to January 4. For the purpose of bringing out information showing the existence of a civil pension list the house asked the President for the number of civil employes of the government who have reached the age of 70.

Washington, Dec. 18.—Senate—Whether the senate is warranted in ignoring a senator convicted in the courts on charges of misconduct and in not assigning him to places on standing committees, yet leaving his name on the roll, was discussed for two hours today and then dropped without a ruling. The matter came up when the list of standing committees was presented and it was stated that the name of Senator Burton, of Kansas, had been left out at his request. A resolution providing for adjournment from Dec. 21 to Jan. 4 was adopted. The message from the house disagreeing with the senate amendments to the canal appropriation bill was laid before the senate. A motion that the senate insist on the amendments and agreeing to a conference was adopted. The ship subsidy bill was taken up, which makes it the unfinished business. A resolution calling on the secretary of the treasury for the names and location of national banks and the amount of deposits of United States moneys from June 30, 1901, to 1905 was adopted.

House—Insurance, hazing at West Point and Annapolis, the sufferings of the Russian Jews and immigration were the topics of discussion in the house today under a general leave of talk. The only business done was to send the Panama canal appropriation bill to conference.

THE MARKETS.

The Grain Markets.

Toledo, Dec. 19.—Close.—Muscle was applied to wheat at the opening today. Prices ruled firm at fractional advances. Some nervous shorts were reported covering. Offerings seemed more or less liberal on all hard spots. Market situation was more or less a perplexing problem. Liverpool cables came weaker, no doubt reflecting the big increase in the visible. Receipts in the northwest and Canada were exceptionally heavy, despite the disturbed weather situation. Minneapolis reported more than 600,000 bushels increase within three days. Milling demand is slow.

Supposed Armour buying forced market up 1c at the close.

A disturbed weather map was rather a boon than a drawback to corn during the earlier hours today. While undoubtedly the undertone was inclined to be weaker, due to a variety of causes, but chief among which is the approaching holiday period, prices did not work that way. Although there is a heavy and continuous run of receipts, at the same time there is an excellent inquiry coming from the feeding interests. The export situation is only moderately active, though very heavy. Cables were about steady, though prices were inclined to sag with wheat.

Stop-loss order caused a strong closing in December corn.

Toledo oats did not reflect the easier tone of Chicago oats. Local prices were firm at fractional gains. While the impression prevails that the market has been overbought, from a speculative standpoint, nevertheless the inquiries were numerous. Receipts were moderately large.

Oats closed strong. Market felt the bulge in wheat. Estimates were 102 cars; exports were 268,000 bushels.

There was little doing in the seeds. Prices hovered about the old levels, with the demand better than the offerings. Receipts were light. Off-grades seem to enjoy a brisk trade. Closing was steady and estimates were 350 bags.

TOLEDO.

	Open.	High.	Low.	Close Dec. 19.	Close Dec. 18.
Wheat—					
Cash	88½	89½	88½	89½	88½
Dec	89⅝	90½	89⅛	89½	88½
May	90⅝	91½	90⅝	91½	90⅝
July	*84½	85½	84⅝	85½	84½
Corn—					
Cash	....	....	....	44¾	45¼
Dec.	45	45	44¾	44¾	45
May	44¾	44⅝	44¼	44⅝	44¼
July	44⅞	44⅞	44⅞	44⅞	44¾
Oats—					
Cash	....	....	....	33¾	33½
Dec	33½	33¾	33½	33¾	33½
May	33¾	34	33¾	34	33¾
July	32⅜	32¼	32⅛	32¼	32¼
Clover Seed—					
Cash	....	....	....	8.20	8.20
Dec.	8.20	8.20	8.20	8.20	8.20
Jan.	8.22	8.22	8.22	8.22	8.22
Feb.	8.30	8.30	8.27	8.27	8.30
March	*8.32	8.35	8.32	8.35	8.35
No. 2	....	....	....	69	69
No. 3	....	....	....	64½	64½
Timothy—					
Prime	....	....	....	1.55	1.55
Alsike—					
Prime	....	....	....	8.00	8.00

*Bid.

NEW YORK.

Wheat—					
Dec	94½	95½	94⅜	95½	94⅝
May	91⅝	92¾	91⅝	92¾	91⅞
Corn—					
Dec	56	56¾	56	56¾	56
May	50	50⅝	50	50⅝	50

ST. LOUIS.

Wheat—					
Dec	93¼	83¼	83¼	83¼	82⅞
May	86⅜	87⅜	86¼	87⅜	86⅜
July	....	....	....	81⅞	80⅞

MINNEAPOLIS.

Wheat—					
Dec	....	....	....	82¼	81⅜
May	....	....	....	86⅛	85⅛
July	....	....	....	86⅝	85⅞

DULUTH.

Wheat—					
Dec	....	....	....	83¼	82
May	....	....	....	86	85

CHICAGO.

Wheat—					
Dec.	84	84⅜	84	84⅜	83⅞
May	87¼	88⅝	87¼	88½	87½
July	82¾	84	82⅝	84	82⅞
Jan.	83¾	84½	83¾	84½	....
Corn—					
Dec. (new)	45	46	45	45¾	45
Dec. (old).	48¼	50	48	50	48½
May	44⅛	44½	44⅛	44½	44⅛
July	44⅜	44¾	44⅜	44¾	44⅞
Jan.	42⅝	42¾	42⅝	42¾	42¾
Oats—					
Dec.	30⅜	31	30⅜	31	30½
May	32	32⅝	31⅞	32⅜	32
July	30½	30¾	30½	30⅝	30½

CHICAGO PROVISIONS.

Pork—					
Jan...	13.20	13.52	13.20	13.50	13.15
May	13.37	13.72	13.37	13.67	13.32
Lard—					
Dec...	7.60	7.60	7.55	7.57	7.57
Jan...	7.45	7.47	7.40	7.47	7.37
May	7.35	7.42	7.35	7.42	7.30
Ribs—					
Jan...	6.97	7.07	6.97	7.07	6.95
May	7.17	7.27	7.17	7.27	7.15
July	7.35	7.37	7.35	7.37	....

Toledo Produce Market.

Butter—Steady. Fancy Elgin creamery, 1-lb. prints, 26c; solid packed, 24c; dairy, 16@17c; packing stocks, 15½c.

Eggs—Strictly fresh, 30c; storage, 24c.

Cheese—Michigan full cream, 13½c.

Beets—New, per bushel, 40c.

Beans—Navy (hand picked), $1.70.

Brussels sprouts—Per quart, 30c.

Celery—Per bunch, 30@35c.

Cabbage—Danish pound, 1½c; per ton, $22.50.

Carrots—New per bushel, 30c.

Holly—Per case, $3.25.

Lettuce—Per lb., 14c.

Carrots—New, per bushel, 40c.

Onions—Spanish, per crate, $1.50; home-grown, 72c per bushel.

Parsnips—Per bushel, 60c.

Potatoes—New Michigan White, per bu., 70c.

Potatoes—Jersey sweets, $3.50 per bbl.; Delaware sweets, $2.75 per bbl.

Radishes—Per dozen, 30c.

Spinach—Per bushel, 40c.

Canadian Rutabagas—Per bushel, 40c.

Squash—Hubbard, per dozen, 60c; $3.00 per ton.

Turnips—Per bu., new, 40c.

Apples—York State Baldwins, per bbl., bbl, $3.75; Russetts, per bbl., $4.00; Kings, per bbl., $4.25.

Cranberries—Cape Cod, per bu., $4.00 per bbl., $12.00; Jerseys, $11.00 per bbl.; per bushel, $3.75.

Pears—Keffers, 75c bu.

Poultry—Alive—Chickens, 9½c; fowls, 8½c; turkeys, 14c; ducks, 10@11c; geese, 10@11c.

Poultry — Dressed — Chickens, 10@11½c; turkeys, 14@17c; ducks, 12@13c; geese, 12½c.

Dressed Hogs—6@6½c; cows, 3½@5c; lambs, 8@9c; springs lambs, 10@11c; calves, 8@9½c.

Money and Stocks.

New York, Dec. 19.—(Wall street.)—Opening prices in the stock market showed fewer wide changes than for a long time. Small gains largely predominated but there were some important stocks showing declines, including the United States Steel stocks and Pennsylvania. Great Northern preferred rose 1¼ and Northern Pacific, Rock Island preferred, Brooklyn Transit, Metropolitan Street Railroad and Sugar large fractions. People's Gas and North American fell 5%.

The market developed growing strength and animation very soon after the opening. Stocks in which recent successful bullish campaigns have been made derived the most benefit from the rise, especially Smelting, Lead and Sugar. Outside of the transcontinental group, very little interest was taken in the course of the railroad stocks. The chief advances were great Northern, Lead and Beet Sugar 2½, Northern Pacific 2¼, Smelting 2⅛, Colorado Fuel and Sugar 2, Metropolitan Street Railway, Pressed Steel Car and Distillers securities 1½, New York Central 1¼, and Union Pacific, Cleveland C. C. & St. Louis, Brooklyn Transit and Metropolitan Securities 1.

The market continued strong and new advances were made but mostly in the specialties. The rise of 2¼ in Union Pacific and 1⅝ in St. Paul had slight effect in the railroad list. Louisville & Nashville gained 2½, Atlantic Coast Line 1. The advance of 1¾ to par by Amalgamated Copper was a feature. Central Leather, American Hide and Leather preferred, Rubber goods, North American and Republic Steel preferred, United States Pipe, Locomotive, People's Gas and Allis-Chalmers preferred made gains of 1 to 2, and Chicago Union Traction preferred 3. The Iowa Central stocks, St. Louis & San Francisco first preferred, Central railroad of New Jersey, Tennessee Coal, Sloss-Sheffield Steel and Knickerbocker Ice were depressed from 1 to 2 points.

Reading came into prominence with a 1 point rise at noon. Bonds were steady.

Live Stock.

Prices in live hogs today ruled firm at the local stock yards. Advance averaged five cents. Demand was active. Clearances were made early. Receipts were 9 cars. All sheep and calf offerings found a quick sale, the local demand by slaughterers being exceptionally active. Receipts were light. Cattle was strong.

Hogs—Selected heavies, average 250 to 300 lbs., $5.15; good mediums, average 200 to 250 lbs. and up, $5.15; good mixed, average 180 lbs. and up, $5.10; Yorkers, $5.00@5.05; light Yorkers, $5.00; bulk of sales, $5.10@5.15; pigs, $5.00@5.10; stags and roughs, $3.00@4.50.

Cattle—Good to prime steers, 1,200 lbs. and up, $4.00@5.25; fair to good steers, $3.00@3.75; good to choice feeders, $3.50@4.25; fair to best cows, $3.00@3.50; common and light heifers, $2.50@3.00; bulls, $2.50@3.50.

Calves—Choice veals, $6.00@7.25; fair to good veals, $5.50@6.50; heavy and few veals, $2.00@4.00.

Sheep and Lambs—God to choice yearlings, $4.25@4.85; good mixed sheep, $4.00@4.50; culls and common, $2.00@2.50; spring lambs, $7.25.

Chicago, Dec. 19.—Cattle—Receipts, 1,000; market strong; beeves, $3.40@6.50; cows and heifers, $1.40@4.75; stockers and feeders, $2.50@4.15; Texans, $3.50@4.25; westerns, $3.30@4.75.

Hogs—Receipts, 36,000; market strong; mixed and butchers, $4.75@5.05; good heavy, $4.90@5.05; rough heavy, $4.75@4.85; light, $4.80@5.00; pigs, $4.40@4.90; bulk of sales, $4.75@4.95.

Sheep—Receipts, 13,000; market steady; sheep, $4.00@5.75; lambs, $4.75@7.75.

Hogs—Union Stock Yards, Pittsburg, Dec. 19.—(Brinkman, Wood & Beck's Special Report to The Blade.)—Ten loads hogs½ heavy medium and heavy yorkers, $5.35; light yorkers and pigs, $5.20@5.25. Four loads sheep; lambs lower, $5.00@7.00; sheep, $4.50@5.75; calves, $5.00@8.50.

Union Stock Yards, Cleveland, Dec. 19.—(Bower & Bower's Special Report to The Blade.)—Hogs—Receipts, 40 cars; market steady to strong; sold, generally mixed, $5.20; yorkers, $5.15@5.20; pigs, $5.25; stags and roughs, $3.50@4.50. Cattle—Receipts, 8 cars; market steady. Sheep and lambs—Five cars; market steady.

East Buffalo, N. Y., Dec. 19.—(Swope, H. W. & B.'s Special Report to The Blade.)—Cattle—Ten cars; steady. Hogs—Thirty-five double decks; shade higher; all grades, $5.25@5.30. Sheep—Thirty double decks; slow, yesterday's quotations; calves, $6.00@9.00.

Cotton.

New York, Dec. 19.—The cotton market opened strong at an advance of 17 to 23 points in response to higher cables and the bullish report of the National Ginners' association, showing 8,975,000 bales ginned to December 13, when a report of around 9,300,000 bales had been looked for. There was active covering of shorts, but there was also a good deal of holiday profit taking on the advance, and the market during the middle of the morning showed feverish irregularity, with prices about 23 points net higher.

At midday the market was quiet, but steady, with prices about 12 to 22 points net higher. Spot cotton quiet; middling uplands, 12.35; middling gulf, 12.60.

Estimated receipts of cotton at the ports today, 57,000 bales, against 50,156 last week and 60,544 last year. For the week 230,000 bales, against 256,717 last week and 301,631 last year. Today's receipts at New Orleans (unreported) bales, against 19,675 last year, and at Houston, 15,193 bales, against 14,248 bales last year.

Cotton futures opened firm; Dec., 11.68; Jan., 11.68; March, 12.00; May, 12.19; July, 12.26; Aug., 12.06; Sept., offered, 12.00; Oct., 11.50.

Wool.

Boston, Dec. 19.—The wool market is firmer. Dealers look forward to the general opening of the heavy weights, next month. A big business is anticipated. The volume of business done the last few days has been satisfactory. The market is not especially active since manufacturers are busy with stock trading. Fleeces are steady. Ohio fine delain is selling moderately at 36½c, but some holders are asking 37c, and even some sales have been put through at 37½c. Several lots of XX have been disposed of at 35c, while X is held at 33@34c. Half bloods bring 34@35c, as also do quarters, and three-eighths sold at 34½c. There has been but a limited movement in Michigan fleeces and available supplies are comparatively small. Fine unwashed is held at 25@26c, with little demand. Some small quantities of three-eighths blood went at 34@35c, while 34c is the top quotation for quarters.